



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Saguaro National Park
3693 South Old Spanish Trail
Tucson AZ 85730



IN REPLY REFER TO

March 16, 2010

Gary Hayes
Executive Director
Pima Association of Governments
177 N. Church Avenue #405
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Mr. Hayes,

Saguaro National Park recently reviewed Pima County's draft plan and design drawings for the potential Valencia Road extension from Houghton Road to Old Spanish Trail, including the proposed bridge over Pantano Wash. The park supports the overall plan to provide connectivity between the Rincon Valley and the City, provided mitigations are implemented to ensure protection of important wildlife and other resource values.

The proposed plan would help reduce local traffic along Old Spanish Trail immediately adjacent to the park, thereby decreasing wildlife road kills along this protected area. Improved access should also result in reduced response times for sheriff, fire and emergency services to the south side of the park.

The park encourages the County to consult with Arizona Game and Fish Department, United States Fish and Wildlife Service as appropriate, the Rincon Institute, and Saguaro National Park to develop wildlife and riparian vegetation mitigations prior to finalizing the design.

Saguaro National Park benefits from strong public and private partnerships, and we take pride in working with the community to develop mutually beneficial solutions to development near park boundaries. As the community has embraced the park and its values, we continue to support the work of the county and this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Darla Sidles
Superintendent

cc: Ben Goff



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
355TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE ARIZONA

MAR 4 2010

Brig Gen Paul T. Johnson
Commander
5275 East Granite Street
Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ 85707

Mr. Chuck Huckleberry
Pima County Administrator
130 West Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Dear Mr. Huckleberry

As always, I appreciate the opportunity to have my development team evaluate proposed projects and their potential effects on the mission of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base (DMAFB). This letter is regarding the proposed extension of Valencia Road within the ARS 28-8461 "Territory in the vicinity" of DMAFB.

The Valencia Road extension and bridge project, while not within the DMAFB approach-departure corridor (ADC 2 or ADC 3), is under DMAFB's approach and arrival traffic pattern. However, given the typical altitudes flown and the proposed project's location under our local traffic pattern, the construction of a bridge across the Pantano Wash on Valencia Road would not present a risk or concern to local flight operations. In addition, the roadway would benefit many commuters allowing easier access to the DMAFB area, particularly as the approval process for a new south gate entry progresses.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to be responsible partners in land use decisions nearby and potentially affecting DMAFB. We will continue working with local, state and private entities for Tucson's greater good and to preserve public safety and the continued viability of the base. If you have any questions, please contact my Community Liaison team at 228-5060.

Sincerely

Paul W. Slichter
FOR PAUL T. JOHNSON
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander

GLOBAL POWER FOR AMERICA



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
130 W. CONGRESS, TUCSON, AZ 85701-1317
(520) 740-8661 FAX (520) 740-8171

C. H. HUCKELBERRY
County Administrator

February 26, 2010

The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords
United States House of Representatives
Arizona-8, Democrat
1728 House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

ATTN: Liz Barry

Re: Valencia Road Extension, Houghton Road to Old Spanish Trail

Dear Congresswoman Giffords:

First; thank you for all you have done on behalf of Pima County and our communities. Your past efforts are greatly appreciated. Second; thank you for extending the opportunity to submit this project for your consideration. This is greatly appreciated by Pima County and our private sector partners in this important project.

We are requesting your support for funding an additional project on the Valencia Road Corridor: the Valencia Road Extension, Houghton Road to Old Spanish Trail. This is second priority to our Valencia/Kolb – Centennial GSI project. This project is also located wholly within your district, and we ask you to be the primary sponsor of the project. We will also ask Congressmen Ed Pastor and Raul Grijalva to support this project.

The extension of Valencia Road east of Houghton and across Pantano Wash to Old Spanish Trail is critical to the continued urban development of the Rincon Valley. This project is a component of both the Rocking K and Rancho del Lago Specific Plans, which were subjects of an extensive public hearing process before the Pima County Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. The project also addresses current access issues in this area as witnessed by the letters of support from community agencies.

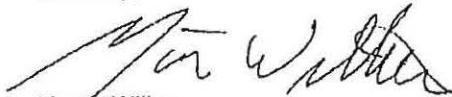
The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords
Re: Valencia Road Extension, Houghton Road to Old Spanish Trail
February 26, 2010
Page 2

Attached please find our formal application in the prescribed format and letters of support from entities serving the Rincon Valley. We have also included a copy of the Pima County Board of Supervisors Resolution 2008-14, which authorizes our agreement with Rocking K Development Company concerning the public/private financing of the project.

Please do not hesitate to contact Priscilla Cornelio or Ben Goff in our Transportation Department (520.740.6410) if we may provide you with any additional information.

Thank you, again, for your continued assistance and support.

Sincerely,



Martin Willett
Chief Deputy County Administrator
on behalf of C.H. Huckleberry
County Administrator

CHH/MJW/mjk

Attachments

c: John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Priscilla Cornelio, Director, Transportation



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA.

February 24, 2010

The University of Arizona Science and Technology Park (Tech Park) supports and endorses Pima County's request for federal funding for the extension of Valencia Road from Houghton Road to Old Spanish Trail, including the bridge over the Pantano Wash. This project is of regional benefit and will provide connectivity, improve public safety, and increase access to the Tech Park in one of the region's most important and fastest growing employment centers.

The UA Science and Technology Park (Tech Park) is located between Kolb Road and Rita Road just south of Valencia Road and north of Interstate 10. It is a major center of research and high technology development, contributing nearly \$2.9 billion annually to the Pima County economy. The Tech Park is home to the Pima County campus of UA South, Vail Academy and High School, Pima Community College, and the Arizona Center for Innovation. The Park hosts forty high technology companies with more than 7,000 employees. Adjacent to the Tech Park are additional major employers including Target, Global Solar and Arizona Canning.

The extension of Valencia Road affirms the significance of Valencia as a community corridor, serving the existing community population as well as the designated growth areas in Tucson and Pima County. The Valencia Road extension will provide efficient and direct access to the Tech Park for employees, clients and guests for the current Tech Park, as well as the planned retail, residential and commercial development.

The Valencia Road extension is identified on Pima County's and City of Tucson's Major Streets and Routes Plans. Federal funding for the Valencia Rd. extension and bridge over the Pantano Wash will reduce vehicle miles travelled, increase roadway capacity and regional connectivity and make a positive long-term economic, environmental and social contribution to the region.

Bruce A. Wright
Associate V.P. for University Research Parks
Chief Operating Officer for the UA Science and Technology Park



EXCELLENCE CENTER FOR
INNOVATION





Shaping the Future of the West
www.sonoraninstitute.org

TCSON, ARIZONA
BOZEMAN, MONTANA
CHEYENNE, WYOMING
DENVER, COLORADO
GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO
HELENA, MONTANA
MEXICALI, BAJA CALIFORNIA
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
SHERIDAN, WYOMING

February 19, 2010

Representative Gabrielle Giffords
1661 North Swan Road
Tucson, AZ 85712-4051

RE: Valencia Road Extension

Dear Representative Giffords:

I am writing to express support for the extension of Valencia Road from Houghton Road to Old Spanish Trail.

The Rincon Valley has long been designated for intensive future development. The Valley has grown dramatically over the past 20 years. Despite the current recession, all indications are that this growth will continue into the future as the Tucson and Pima County housing market recovers from this bust.

Transportation infrastructure in and around the Rincon Valley has not kept up with this growth. Extending Valencia Road would reduce the distance that many residents of the Rincon Valley must drive to work and the distance that school buses from the Vail School District must drive to deliver students to and from school, and will provide the Valley with a much needed second principal access for public safety.

In light of the growth trends in the Valley, sound land-use planning calls for the extension of Valencia Road into the Rincon Valley.

Sincerely,

Luther Propst

CC: Ron Barbour
Chris Monson



**TUCSON
METRO
CHAMBER**

465 W St. Mary's Rd. · 520-792-1212
PO Box 991 · 520-682-5704
Tucson, AZ 85702 · TucsonChamber.org

Mr. Steve Christy
Chair
Regional Transportation Authority
177 N. Church Ave.
Ste. 405
Tucson, AZ 85701

November 4, 2013

Dear Steve,

I am writing to encourage you and your associates at the RTA to consider the completion of the eastern section of Valencia Road project. The Tucson Metro Chamber generally supports the enhancement of transportation corridors and improvement of regional connectivity as vital components of economic expansion.

The southeast area of our region is where many of our major employers are located. It is also where major highways, rail, air service and regional arterial and connector roads converge and are slated for future improvements. Community organizations are supportive of accelerating construction of the eastern portion of Valencia Road and completing Valencia end to end.

The southeast area will also hold the future population of our region in the Arizona State Lands, much of which is located in the City of Tucson.

There is an exciting and unprecedented opportunity for a regional public-private partnership. The section of Valencia Road east of Houghton is ready to be finished. It is our understanding that the right-of-way has been acquired and a local engineering firm has completed 100% of the construction documents. We further understand that both the City of Tucson and Pima County Departments of Transportation have accepted the roadway plans. Private development impact fees will be the source of repaying the public cost of constructing the road and the bridge over the Pantano Wash.

This future public roadway is practically shovel-ready. A private entity has made the investment to date and private residential and commercial developments will generate the roadway impact fees to pay for the road.

This is an innovative approach to accelerating construction for beneficial roadway construction and appears to be a low-risk, high-reward project. We encourage the PAG/RTA Board to give it serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael V. Varney
President & CEO

Growing Businesses. Building Communities.



Southern Arizona Home Builders Association

**Southern Arizona
Home Builders
Association**

2840 N. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85716
Phone: (520) 795-5114
Fax: (520) 326-8665
Web: www.sahba.org

President
David M. Godlewski

2013 Executive Officers

Chairman
Ron Teaney
Miramonte Homes

1st Vice Chairman
Mike Leung
Red Point Development

2nd Vice Chairman
Josh Robinson
Pulte Homes

Secretary/Treasurer
Lisa Rankin
Southwest Gas

Immediate Past Chairman
Al LeCocq
A.B. LeCocq Construction

Affiliated With



October 22, 2013

Mr. Steve Christy, Chairman
Pima Association of Governments
Regional Transportation Authority
177 N. Church Ave., Suite 405
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Re: Valencia Road Extension

Dear Mr. Christy:

The Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SAHBA) represents 350 building industry companies who employ over 5,000 employees throughout Southern Arizona. SAHBA supports the proposed RTA extension of Valencia Road. We believe this effort would further facilitate needed economic development, enhance our transportation corridors, improve public safety, and vastly improve community infrastructure.

The roadway extension is proposed in an important growth area and this necessary infrastructure improvement will greatly enhance the long-term economic success of this benefit area. In addition, the improved infrastructure will further enhance the neighborhoods built in this area.

The return on investment will be realized with the addition of land developers, home builders and homeowners participating in the repayment stream provided by new home construction. The proposed Valencia Roadway extension is precisely the type of infrastructure improvement our community needs and which the RTA so critically provides.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shawn Cote
Southern Arizona Home Builders Association

cc: Farhad Moghimi, PAG/RTA Executive Director
Jim Degrood, PAG/RTA Transportation Service Director

Monday, October 21st, 2013



Steve Christy
Chair
Regional Transportation Authority
177 N Church Ave
Suite 405
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Mr. Christy:

TREO's goal is to facilitate export based job growth and investment with the intent to increase economic prosperity for Southern Arizona residents. To help accomplish this goal, TREO works to increase our capacity to complete, whether that be by supporting education, workforce development or improving our transportation infrastructure.

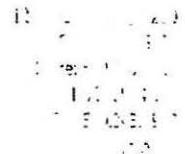
I am writing to you to express our support of the Valencia Road extension from Houghton to Old Spanish Trail. RTA's commitment to advancing regional infrastructure through public/private partnerships is to be commended. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

This important road extension would provide a strong connection between current and future employment centers and increase our competitiveness.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Snell".

Joe Snell
President & CEO



October 11, 2013

Mr. Steve Christy, Chairman
Regional Transportation Authority
Pima Association of Governments
177 N. Church Avenue, Suite 405
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Dear Mr. Christy:

The University of Arizona (UA) and the UA Tech Park reaffirm their support for the proposed expansion and improvement of Valencia Road from Alvernon Way to Old Spanish Trail.

This project will relieve significant congestion in the southeast region of Pima County and will serve one of the region's most important and fastest growing employment centers.

The UA Science and Technology Park (UA Tech Park) is located between Kolb Road and Rita Road just south of Valencia Road and north of Interstate 10. The Park is a major research and development center, contributing annually \$2.4 billion to the local economy. The Tech Park is home to the Pima County campus of UA South, Vail Academy and High School, and the Arizona Center for Innovation. The Park hosts forty companies and organizations with more than 7,000 employees.

The UA Tech Park is located in the Tucson Tech Corridor. The Corridor includes more than 70 companies including the Port of Tucson, Target Fulfillment Center, Global Solar, Arizona Canning, and The Offshore Group.

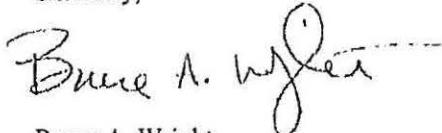
Nearly half the employees who work at the UA Tech Park reside in the central portion of Tucson. Other employees live in Oro Valley, Marana and Sahuarita. The proposed improvements to Valencia Road would provide safe, efficient and direct access to the work site for these employees.



These improvements will also provide better access to the residential and commercial areas around the Tech Park including the Houghton Town Center, Rita Ranch, Sycamore Park, and Voyager Resort.

This project is consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan. It will relieve current and future traffic congestion. It will contribute to long term economic development of Pima County.

Sincerely,



Bruce A. Wright
Associate Vice President

cc: Ramon Valadez, Chairman, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Jonathan Rothschild, Mayor, City of Tucson
Farhad Moghimi, Executive Director, Pima Association of Governments
Jim Degroot, Transportation Service Director, Pima Association of Governments
Tim Bee, Associate Vice President for Governmental Relations, University of Arizona
Molly Gilbert, Director of Community Engagement, Tech Parks Arizona