



R I L L I T O - P A R K

December 17th, 2015

The Honorable Sharon Bronson
Pima County Board of Supervisors – District 3
130 West Congress – 11th floor
Tucson, AZ 85701-1317

Dear Supervisor Bronson:

At the request of Nanette Slusser and Tom Moulton, I am writing on behalf of Rillito Racing, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Rillito Park Foundation, to ask for special consideration.

In light of the postponement of a vote on the Rillito Park Foundation contract with Pima County, we respectfully request reinstatement of the earlier contract with Rillito Racing, Inc. to conduct racing for the planned Winter Meet beginning Jan 1st, with Opening Day scheduled for January 30th, 2016. The contract number which is CT 14*537.

We are confident that all of the concerns you expressed regarding the long-term contract during the recent meeting can be answered to your satisfaction in due course. That contract is with the Rillito Park Foundation.

I know you are aware of the impact the delay has caused on our race preparations and would appreciate every effort to expedite this request. If the horsemen do not have some assurance soon that racing will happen, the meet will be damaged severely if not forced to be cancelled.

On behalf of the Board of Rillito Racing, we thank you for your attention to this matter. Please don't not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or need clarification on this request.

Sincerely,

Jaye Wells, President
Rillito Racing, Inc.
1090 East River Road
Tucson, AZ 85718
520-360-2049 direct

cc: Nanette Slusser
Tom Moulton
Russell True

From: Jeff Rogers]
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 6:55 AM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito Park

Dear Supervisor Bronson,
I would just like to take a moment to express my sincere and heart-felt gratitude for your handling of the proposed horse racing lease at Rillito Race Park. I have had the honor and privilege of working with Southern Arizona youth as both a Flowing Wells School District teacher (Hendricks Elementary) and a youth soccer coach/director (Tucson Soccer Academy) for last 15 years, and there is no greater resource for our community than our next generation of community leaders and business owners. By investing our resources in their activities and development we are paving the way for a brighter future for Tucson and all of Southern Arizona. Again, thank you for your forward thinking vision and the strength to stand up for positive change and a better utilization of our community land and resources.

Respectfully,
Jeff Rogers BS, RT(R)
Director of Coaching, TSA
USSF "A" License
Asst. Coach, FC Tucson
Asst. Coach, Salpointe HS
98 Boys Red Head Coach
01 Boys Red Head. Coach
520-631-3650
www.tucsonsocceracademy.com

From: Wolfgang
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 11:54 AM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito Park

Dear Supervisor Bronson,

Recently I attended a Board of Supervisors Meeting because of my concerns about the future of the Rillito Park project and the impact on our soccer community.

As you well know, the recommendations of the Parks Advisory Committee were unanimous and very clear – convert Rillito to an 18 field soccer complex capable of drawing major state, regional and national type tournaments. It was agreed that there are other and better suited sites for Horse Racing and its affiliated betting ventures. Everyone signed off on this and, I believe, the Boards vote was unanimous.

At this time I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you and your fellow board-members for your support of the Advisory Committee's recommendations and for your wisdom to give priority to the needs of our kids versus the Racing and Betting Industry.

Kindest regards,
Wolfgang Weber

Co-Founder Tucson Soccer Academy
Coach Salpointe Catholic High School since 1982
Pima County Sports Hall of Fame Inductee

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park and Fields for 2/2 agenda item
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:09:02 AM

From: Tony Torres
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:08 AM
To: District3; District1; District4; District5; DIST2
Cc: Dave Cosgrove; Ted Schmidt; Sou Moussa-Torres
Subject: Rillito Park and Fields

Pima County Board of Supervisors,

I appreciate your time, and consideration regarding the following matter. Additionally the time, dedication, and work you have committed in serving our community.

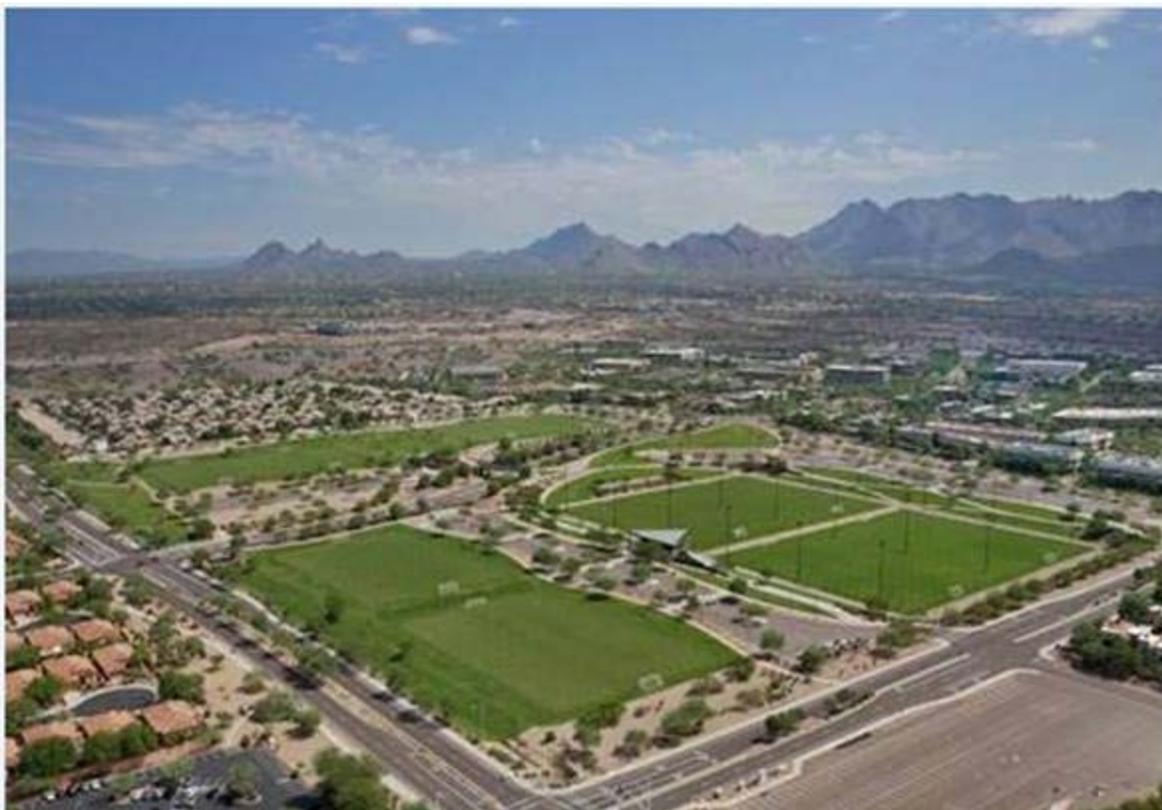
I recently learned that the Board is considering action on the Rillito horse track, and how to move forward in using the facility and land. I understand that the location has historical, and cultural significance to the community. However, moving forward I believe there will be greater opportunities for our community, county, and local businesses if the location was converted into a soccer complex.

I have been long time Tucson resident, and have been involved in the soccer community for at least 35 years as a player in youth, high school, college, and semi professionally. I have enjoyed coaching at the youth level, and high school. I am spectator who enjoys watching my own children play in Tucson. I have seen the sport grow immensely here, while the facilities and fields around town have not kept pace with the growing interest.

Converting the Rillito Downs to a soccer complex would be a valuable investment by the county. The fields would not only serve our youth, and families, but will provide opportunities for local businesses in Pima County, and city of Tucson. Phoenix has an array of soccer complexes that are used for tournaments that bring people from around the state, and nation to play there. We are regularly driving up to Phoenix to play games and tournaments. (i.e. Rose Mofford Park, Scottsdale Soccer Complex, Reach 11 Soccer Complex, Fear Farm Sport Complex, etc.) see images:



Reach 11 - Phoenix



Scottsdale Soccer Complex

These venues do not only host local soccer games, but an assortment of tournaments each year that brings families from all around Arizona, and the nation to participate in. Phoenix hosts regional, and national tournaments in soccer because of their facilities, and local weather. The AYSA organization sent an email to coaches, explaining how they do not have enough fields

anymore, and how scheduling state league games has been a struggle this year. Tucson can also offer those same pieces with a soccer complex at Rillito. Local clubs, and leagues can take advantage of the fields, but so can state, and national tournaments. This investment can also be seen in Casa Grande, who built similar facilities, and has Major League Soccer training during the winter and spring on their off season. Las Vegas, and California also have also developed these types of complexes. The Kino sport's complex was a sound investment by the county; Rillito would be the next step in making Tucson a viable soccer town for tournaments.

I appreciate your time, and consideration regarding this matter. I know that you have an equal amount of emails for keeping the racetrack, and a difficult decision to make. I feel the differences is that this complex would not be seasonal, and will offer year round payback and use. A racetrack is for a target audience; a soccer complex will serve a greater population locally, and potentially nationally. I believe the fairgrounds can be a place to relocate the races if it is important for them to continue. The location for a soccer complex at Rillito is perfect for surrounding businesses, restaurants, and hotels. It might also encourage building in the area.

Thank you for your time, and I hope you move forward in making Rillito a soccer complex that can be enjoyed by Pima County, the City of Tucson, and families around the state, and country.

Sincerely,

Tony Torres


Vail, Arizona 85641

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Multi-use Vision for Rillito Regional park
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:11:41 AM

From: "Jones, Toni L"

Date: December 22, 2015 at 9:13:53 AM MST

To: "sharon.bronson@pima.gov" <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>, "ally.miller@pima.gov" <ally.miller@pima.gov>, "ramon.valadez@pima.gov" <ramon.valadez@pima.gov>, "ray.carroll@pima.gov" <ray.carroll@pima.gov>, "richard.ellas@pima.gov" <richard.ellas@pima.gov>

Subject: Multi-use Vision for Rillito Regional park

Please vote to allow the Winter meet proceed at Rillito Park in 2016. As a new resident in Tucson I was thrilled to see last year the U of A program there at the track. I attended several races and the community support was overwhelming for a track of this size. I have traveled across the country with my husband who is an equine sports medicine veterinarian who worked at the meet last year-we both were so impressed with the track we decided to make Tucson our home base. He has been an equine veterinarian for over 25 years and has performed services all over the country. He felt a sense of home here that he has not felt in other locations, which is saying a lot! He attended the meeting last night and felt a bit discouraged at what transpired. There is historical value to this particular track and it has great potential to do great things in the future.

I work at the University Medical Center and sincerely hope that you will take into consideration the overall financial and educational impact by not allowing the Winter Meet to move forward.

Thank you for your consideration. Happy Holidays.

Toni Jones

Physician Recruiter-Senior Consultant
Banner – University Medical Center Tucson
[520-694-6024 office](tel:520-694-6024)
[520-694-0498 fax](tel:520-694-0498)



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From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Field Conversion - Feb 2 agenda
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:13:02 AM

From: Patricia Azcue
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 8:52 AM
To: District3; District1; District4; District5; DIST2;
Subject: Rillito Field Conversion

Dear Pima County Supervisors: Good Morning, my name is Patricia Azcue, my son is Alberto Andre Valdez, he is 9 years old, his favorite sport is soccer, he joined TSA Soccer Club this year and he loves it! We really appreciate that Rillito Park has been available for our team to do our training, the kids really enjoy competition and to socialize with kids with a common goal, we consider this park as a safe place for our kids who are the future for our community, at this park you can see kids that are developing technical soccer abilities, discipline, team work, unity, character, focus and social skills, please before you make the decision of converting Rillito Park in a Horse Race area please think about the hundreds of kids that will be without a place to train their favorite sport, that will be a very important tool to develop as a better human being. Thank You for your attention. Best wishes for this coming 2016. Patricia Azcue

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park & Soccer - Feb 2
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:13:59 AM

From:
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 8:36 AM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito Park & Soccer

Dear Ms. Bronson,

Please vote to move the race track out of the Rillito Park area and convert that space into a park and soccer facility for our children. It is the perfect location and with the Farmers market taking place there as well it will be a huge boost to our community. We are in desperate need of more parks and recreation areas in this part of town. Thank you.

Best regards,
Heidi Iversen

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park - Feb 2
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:41:19 AM

From: Desi Rosenfield
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:51 AM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito Park

Dear Supervisor Bronson

Rillito Park is one of the only soccer complexes that we have in Tucson and soccer is becoming a very important sport for our children. It is great exercise and teaches them the value of team work. Most other cities have invested in amazing soccer fields for their youth. One simply has to go to Las Vegas and Phoenix to see what real investment in soccer looks like. Please keep these fields for our children and move the horse racing to wear it belongs near the fairground.

Thanks

Desi Rosenfield

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Tucson Soccer
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 5:08:53 PM

Supervisor Bronson,

I wanted to take a moment of your time and Thank You for all the support and foresight you have given youth soccer, TSA and the growth of soccer in Tucson. It is easy to see the time, money, support and efforts of yourself and the Board of Supervisors is having in our community. A great example is the growth of the Kino Soccer Complex. Tucson now has a local, state and national presence in soccer.

Youth soccer players in Tucson and Pima County are reaping the benefits of all your support, time and hard work. The development and expansion of Rillito Soccer Complex is the crowning achievement in local youth soccer. Almost 1000 TSA players use that facility every year. Over 5000 families from TSA, PCJSL, AYSO, adult soccer leagues, lacrosse, rugby and youth soccer Tournaments will now use the old and new fields. Expanding Rillito further will increase the usage, availability, safety and numbers of Tucson players and families using Rillito. Rillito will become the hub of Tucson soccer and many youth sports.

However, I would like to give you a different, personal and selfish angle on why expanding Rillito is so important.

I am the Head Men's Soccer Coach at Pima College and have been for the last 17 years. I am also a big fan and supporter of the Pima College Women's soccer program. Over the last 17 years, and the last 5 in particular, Pima Soccer has become a National Power. Both the Men's and Women's programs have finished in the top 20 regularly but recently have pushed into the top 10. In 2014 the Pima men finished 6th and this year they finished 3rd in the country. Since Pima College has limited resources, financial assistance, and no housing well over 90% of the Pima College Men's and Women's teams are local student athletes. The current 2015 Pima Men's team were the local kids playing at Rillito in 2005-2013. Due to your support and the Rillito facilities many of these Tucson youth players are now #3 in the Country and on their way to a 4 year university on soccer based scholarships.

There is a direct and absolute relationship between Rillito and local soccer facility improvements and the growth of the Pima Soccer programs. In effect, the support of the Pima County Board of Supervisors, for local fields, facilities and soccer has paved the way for Tucson youth soccer players to gain a college education. There is no way to quantify the value of that for those kids, families or the Tucson community. Simple put, you are changing lives!!

I will finish with Thanking You again for your past support and vision for youth sports and the expansion of the Rillito Soccer Complex. I also strongly encourage you to support the continued growth and expansion of the Rillito Soccer Complex. It is changing youth soccer players in Tucson lives.

Sincerely,

David Cosgrove

Pima College Head Men's Soccer Coach
Tucson Soccer Academy Director of Coaching
2013 NJCAA Hall of Fame
2013 Pima County Hall of Fame

From:
To: [District1](#); [DIST2](#); [District3](#); [District4](#); [District5](#)
Subject: Rillito soccer complex
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 7:04:24 PM

Dear Supervisors,

We have been admonished to let you know that we feel it is important for the Rillito racetrack site on First Avenue to become a soccer complex.

The location of this complex is vital to our soccer community and to being. Able to host tournaments and state league matches throughout the year.

Please count me as a supporter to move the horses to the fairgrounds and finish the conversion of The Rillito racetrack to a soccer complex.

Kindest regards,
Faith Tippett

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 1:30:30 PM

Supervisor Bronson:

First, I want you to know that everyone I talk to in the soccer community is grateful for the excellent new fields at Rillito. Thanks for helping to make that happen.

I understand that there has been some controversy around the lease for horse racing at Rillito.

No doubt there is a constituency for horse racing in Tucson, but it is dwarfed by the ever-expanding needs of our local soccer enthusiasts, youth and adult. The demand for quality fields is still unmet and therefore it would serve the community's best interest if racing was discontinued at Rillito. More specifically, a long-term lease for racing would seem to be ill advised at this time.

Sincerely,

Charlie MacCabe
Co-Founder and Board Member
Tucson Soccer Academy
General Manager
FC Tucson Women

7920 E. Birwood Road
Tucson, AZ 85750

From: Jacob
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Soccer Fields
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:51:06 PM

Please keep the soccer fields at Rillito. They really do mean a lot to everyone here at tucson!

From:
To: [Sharon Bronson; District3](#); [Ally Miller; District1](#); [Ramon Valadez; DIST2](#); [Ray Carroll; District4](#); [Richard Elias; District5](#)
Subject: Rillito Park Race Track
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 5:09:16 PM

All,

My name is Joe Longo and I am a graduate student here at the University of Arizona in the race track industry program. I came to Tucson by way of New Jersey and wanted to comment on this issue and help provide some insight into the ramifications of possibly not running the proposed race meet.

The Race Track Program here at the U of A is the only one in the country. My decision to attend here is based on that and the fact that Rillito Park is a working lab providing real world experience for the students here. Rillito provides a unique opportunity for us here, but explaining this is rather short sighted. You need to look outside the box.

My out of state graduate tuition is over \$30k. In addition, I rent an apartment, dine here, and help stimulate the Tucson economy. In addition to myself, there are several other out of state students, so you can imagine how much in tuition is garnered from us. However, closing Rillito goes way beyond that.

There is significant tax revenue from the wagering that takes place that is kicked back. There are jobs that help with the local economy that are on track. More importantly, there is an entire breeding industry and agriculture that takes place behind the scenes. As you can see, there is a ripple effect that is going to take place should the meet not happen. Rillito Park is much more than a place where horses run around in circles. It has a significant impact on the town and University.

The idea that parents want to use the soccer fields there because it is more convenient is appalling and selfish. I drive around Tucson and see plenty of fields, both at the University and high school, that can be used. The spring and fall meets run only several days, but the value it provides far outweighs the convenience of a soccer field. I urge you to keep the meet open and not lose sight of the long term benefit it provides.

Regards,

Joe Longo

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Park
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 11:43:35 AM

Hello. I've heard that you are considering the future of the racetrack at Rillito. It's time to repurpose the dilapidated racetrack into something for which the community has an ongoing need. The racetrack is used as a racetrack for only a hand full of weeks every year. There is an increasing need for soccer fields in our community; a need that exists virtually all year long. Please give the community what it needs, decent recreational facilities for our kids. Thanks.

-Mark Henn

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: TSA Soccer Field
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 2:11:57 PM

Hello Sharon Bronson,

My daughter's success at a soccer scholarship for Division 1 Soccer! At the University of New Mexico was the credit of TSA! Please do not take away this valuable asset to our athletic community by removing this field for TSA use!

Best,

Denice Osbourne

Vice President Member,
of the Executive Council-Long Realty Co.

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From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Park
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 11:21:12 AM

Dear Supervisor Sharon Bronson,

I am a mother of four children: ages 14, 12, 10, and 3. My husband and I have been a part of the Tucson community since we were collage student at University of Arizona 1990-1994 (my husband University of Arizona 1988-1993). We are proud parents and soccer is a big part of our lives and the upbringing of our children. Our oldest son has just begun to play lacrosse as well.

I am writing you today to please ask that you do your best to offer Rillito Park to the community as a park and sports fields. Tucson needs more park space as well as a safe place for our children to play sports.

As a long time tax payer and loving parent in the community I request that on behalf of the Zimmermann family please remove the horse racing from Rillito and dedicate the whole park to year round family fun, park space, soccer, lacrosse, etc.

Thank you!

Kind Regards,

Lynda Zimmermann

Lynda Zimmermann
3924 North Calle Casita
Tucson, AZ 85718 USA

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito park
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 8:35:05 PM

We would love it if you decide to dedicate the Rillito Park's race track to a park and soccer fields! We were excited when those first soccer fields were built because I think it's something that Tucson needs. To have even more fields really would benefit Tucson and all the kids who play soccer.

Thanks,
Heather

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Park for Kids and Soccer
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 2:09:46 PM

Keep it for the Kids and Soccer.

Martin Serratos
Father of 2 soccer-loving kids.

From:
To: [District3](#); [District1](#); [DIST2](#); [District4](#); [District5](#)
Subject: Rillito Park converted to soccer field
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:42:13 AM

Sir/Madam:

Horse racing should not be in the middle of town and should be in the fairground. Please consider dedicating the entire park to soccer field which will benefit our youths. Thank you

David Le

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Race Track
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:11:08 AM

Dear Supervisor Bronson,

I wanted to send a quick message your way regarding the council's upcoming vote on the renewal of Rillito Race Track's use as a horse racing facility. I would like to see it continue to be used as the historical racing center. While there may be a need for more soccer fields (certainly a need for more baseball fields to be used for club team use since District Little League teams control current park fields [I am a youth baseball coach]), I see quite a bit of unused space between I-10 and the Santa Cruz river that could better accommodate the traffic, parking and fields then the already congested area of River and 1st Avenue.

My son has played TSA soccer, and I know they are a powerful voice in the community, I do not believe that soccer programs should drive the decision to change what is a National Historic site that is still be used as what it started as. Had Quarter Horse racing moved on, I might be inclined....might....to change into multi-use fields.

Thanks for the ear,

Andrew Perkins
2701 N Arcadia Ave
Tucson AZ 85712

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Park & Soccer
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 8:35:46 AM

Dear Ms. Bronson,

Please vote to move the race track out of the Rillito Park area and convert that space into a park and soccer facility for our children. It is the perfect location and with the Farmers market taking place there as well it will be a huge boost to our community. We are in desperate need of more parks and recreation areas in this part of town. Thank you.

Best regards,
Heidi Iversen

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: make Rillito Park Soccer Fields
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:23:20 AM

thanks Paul Kratzer

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Please covert horse tracks
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:46:54 AM

Dear Ms. Bronson,

I am writing to you to encourage you to vote to convert Rillito downs to all soccer fields.

Encouraging our youth to pursue a lifetime of health exercise and participatory sports is more important than keeping the race track in it's current location.

Moreover, racetracks create a health and environmental risk for the kids. The types of medications given to horses that then end up on the tracks and in the fields may include those listed below. Horses also carry tetanus and kids are always getting scraped up during soccer. This is just not a good mix. Please, please consider relocating the tracks.

Sincerely,
Sherry Luna

Cl. tetani is present in the feces and intestinal tracts of horses, and humans. Soil contaminated with horse feces commonly contains *Cl. tetani* spores. Therefore, humans working around horses and horse farms should seek immediate medical attention when injured, especially with penetrating wounds such as those caused by nails. Following a properly administered primary series of tetanus vaccine, virtually all persons develop a protective level of antitoxin (1). Booster vaccines for adult humans are recommended every 10 years (1).

http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/facts/info_tetanus.htm

SOME COMMON DRUGS

ANABOLIC STEROIDS have been used in horseracing in the same way as they have been used by athletes. Steroids enhance muscle development but as they are now easily detected have fallen out of favour to other drugs.

ETORPHINE (elephant juice) A tranquiliser for large animals such as elephants, it can be a most powerful stimulant if applied correctly to horses.

NARCOTIC ANALGESICS (pain relief) Is used for pain relief however in small doses are a powerful stimulant.

CAFFEINE A noted stimulant popular for many years but now very easily detected.

BETA BLOCKERS Are used to slow the heart rate in horses thereby manipulating the horses performance.

BUTAZOLIDIN Has pain-killing and anti-inflammatory properties, which means a horse with congenital defects or soreness due to injury will perform better.

BICARB In large doses can “mop up” the lactic acid that comes with muscle activity. Commonly known as a milkshake, it allows the horse to sustain a run for longer. It is a very common practice with as much as 600grams being administered in a single dose. Trainers often would administer a spoonful to a horse each day to help with their recovery after hard work. More recently, tubing has become the norm as it ensures every bit of the solution reaches the horse’s stomach. A bicarb (TCO₂) stomach drench is popular with many trainers as it has been found that bicarb helps buffer lactic acid. As bicarb is naturally produced, it cannot be banned entirely. Instead, there is a threshold level of 36 millimoles a litre plasma total carbon dioxide. Any reading over that constitutes an offence.

BLUE MAGIC is also known as propantheline bromide. It is used to help relax muscles, which leads to increased blood flow. No traces of the drug have been found in thoroughbred racing but several leading harness racing figures have been charged with its use.

<http://www.horseracingkills.com/the-issues/drug-use/>

Reference: [The Drugs Challenge](#), The Age December 28, 2004 by Andrew Eddy

- See more at: <http://www.horseracingkills.com/the-issues/drug-use/#.dpuf>

Sent from Sherry's cell phone

From:
To: [District3](#); [District1](#); [District4](#); [District5](#); [DIST2](#)
Subject: Rillito Track and Soccer Fields
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:17:11 AM

To Pima County Board:

Please vote to convert Rillito to a park and soccer complex. Soccer as with other sports is avenue for positive youth development. Our kids are our future. I know in Mesa they are looking at a 24 field complex. We have nothing in Pima County that comes close. Two Important things to consider 1. Positive Youth Development; 2. Revenue from large soccer tournaments like Fort Lowell Shootout and the presence of MLS spring training.

Let me give you an example of soccer and kids making a difference. Beginning in 2014 Arizona Youth Soccer hosted Coaches United Against Cancer a St. Baldrick's event in Tucson. St Baldrick's raises funds for cancer research in kids and young adults. My son Ben and 3 other members of his soccer team took part in that event. I also participated with my other son and members of our Boy Scout Troop. Let me explain a little about St. Baldrick's if your not familiar.

The funds are used to fund cancer research specifically targeting children and young adults. Cancer is the number one disease killer of children and young adults in the United States. Worldwide every 3 minutes a child is diagnosed with cancer. St. Baldrick's is the largest funder of childhood cancer research grants outside of the United States government. Kids need to be kids these funds help provide better treatments and better survival rates. You truly are making a difference in the lives of children and young adults with cancer.

Have you ever considered what it might take to help save someone's life?

Consider this staggering fact: one out of every five children diagnosed with cancer will not survive – that's one child too many.

Participants in these events are called shavees. Shavees have their heads shaved to a number 1 buzz cut or about a weeks worth of growth. By shaving your head you stand in solidarity with those who have lost their hair during cancer treatment.

After that first year my boys wanted to do more so we created our own St. Baldrick's event, we had our first event in March 2015 and will be having our second in March 2016. We honor local kids and young adults battling cancer at our event.

Back to soccer kids: My son Ben's soccer team is planning on shaving their heads at our March 2016 event. At least 13 out of 15 is the current count. Can you imagine these 12yr/13yr old boys all

willing to go bald to help others. This is what we want for our future and soccer has played an important role in leading these boys to be good citizens.

I hope you will consider converting Rillito to a park and soccer fields for our youth.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Chris Dow

Note: I could use some VIP participants at our event let me know. Also let me know if you would like more information about the St. Baldrick's event I am organizer for.

From:

To: [District3](#); [District1](#); [District4](#); [District5](#); [DIST2](#); _____

Subject: Rillito Field Conversion

Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 8:52:31 AM

Dear Pima County Supervisors: Good Morning, my name is Patricia Azcue, my son is Alberto Andre Valdez, he is 9 years old, his favorite sport is soccer, he joined TSA Soccer Club this year and he loves it! We really appreciate that Rillito Park has been available for our team to do our training, the kids really enjoy competition and to socialize with kids with a common goal, we consider this park as a safe place for our kids who are the future for our community, at this park you can see kids that are developing technical soccer abilities, discipline, team work, unity, character, focus and social skills, please before you make the decision of converting Rillito Park in a Horse Race area please think about the hundreds of kids that will be without a place to train their favorite sport, that will be a very important tool to develop as a better human being. Thank You for your attention. Best wishes for this coming 2016. Patricia Azcue

From:
To: [District1](#); [DIST2](#); [District3](#); [District4](#); [District5](#)
Subject: Racetracks need to be dedicated to SOCCER FIELDS
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:37:12 AM

Dear Supervisor,

It is important to the community of Tucson to convert the racetracks to a soccer field and dedicate this to our families. It will improve opportunities for the community to host tournaments and increase revenue. Do it for our children!! We are a family of 6 children and we are dedicated to soccer.

Thank you,
Lucinda and Ray Contreras
and Celeste, Jacob Ray, Cole, Candace, Corinne and Noah

From:
To: [District3](#); [District1](#); [District4](#); [District5](#); [DIST2](#)
Subject: Rillito Downs vs Soccer Fields-Short Appeal
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:41:49 AM

All,

My son is an avid soccer player, a member of the Tucson Soccer Academy, and youth soccer in Arizona, that being said, I STRONGLY disagree in dedicating the entire space as such. Rillito downs is a piece of history and an enjoyable time for families during the race season and throughout the year. Tucson has plenty of new soccer fields dedicated at Rillito and several around town. You need to appeal to the masses and not just the soccer community. Tucson has a ton of rich history, the idea of taking it away seems unjustified.

Damian Wilkinson | Client Services Supervisor
[CBRE | Brokerage Services](#)
3719 N. Campbell Avenue | Tucson, AZ 85719
T +1 520 3235193 | F +1 520 3235156 |
damian.wilkinson@cbre.com | www.cbre.com/tucson

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From: **Edward Bloom**

Date: Wed, Dec 23, 2015 at 12:32 PM

Subject: Open Rillito horseracing, it's important to our county

To: sharon.bronson@pima.gov, ally.miller@pima.gov, ramon.valadez@pima.gov,
richard.elias@pima.gov, ray.carroll@pima.gov, chh@pima.gov, robin.grigode@pima.gov

Open letter to Pima County Administrator, District Supervisors

sharon.bronson@pima.gov

ally.miller@pima.gov

ramon.valadez@pima.gov

richard.elias@pima.gov

ray.carroll@pima.gov

chh@pima.gov

robin.grigode@pima.gov

SUBJECT: KEEP RILLITO OPEN

The race track not only supports the community, but provides employment in the following ways, and should be operating as much as possible;
I know patrons that travel from Green Valley to enjoy a day of racing also are customers of the Tucson area restaurants and local shops increasing their revenue
Rillito Park racing employs and provides a source of income for jockeys, trainers, veterinarians, farriers, tack shops, grooms, horse transportation, farmers, mutual clerks, concessionaires, track staff etc.

All these positions generate jobs and income for the county, not to mention the many people who come to enjoy the races; any delay will cost the tax-payers and all the above mentioned too much, Pima County is a government by the people for the people, and should not encumber Rillito Park and their racing operation for reasons given.

Ed Bloom,
Green Valley

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Racing at Rillito 2/2
Date: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 2:06:19 PM

Robin Brigode
Pima County Clerk of the Board
130 W. Congress St., 5th Fl
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520)724-8449

From: Alexa Kari Ravit
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 1:45 PM
To: Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>; Ally Miller <Ally.Miller@pima.gov>; Ramon Valadez <Ramon.Valadez@pima.gov>; Richard Elias <Richard.Elias@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>
Subject: Racing at Rillito

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Alexa Ravit, and I am a graduate student in the Racetrack Industry Program (RTIP) at the University of Arizona. I was greatly looking forward to working at Rillito Park next semester. Thus, it was with great shock and sadness that I read that Rillito may not be able to hold races next year. I hope that the Pima County Board of Supervisors is able to come to the correct decision, which is to allow this historical racetrack to hold races in 2016.

First of all, preventing Rillito from holding racing will be a huge blow to the horsemen who take care of, train, and ride the horses that were expected to run at Rillito. For trainers, jockeys, and grooms, horse racing is their livelihood. If Rillito does not have its race meet, where are all of these people supposed to go? Where are all of their horses supposed to go? How are these horsemen going to earn a living? I am fairly confident that school children are not relying on soccer to pay their rent.

Additionally, Rillito offers students in RTIP the opportunity to get real-world experience in the horse racing industry. For those of you who are not familiar with RTIP, this program has produced countless top trainers and officials in the racing industry. The most famous graduate of them all is none other than Bob Baffert, the trainer of racing's 12th Triple Crown winner, American Pharoah. To prevent racing at Rillito is to eliminate the opportunity for the next potential Bob Baffert to gain applicable skills and knowledge to use in his or her future racing career. The Racetrack Industry Program may target a niche demographic, but it molds leaders of the racing industry who are known in the United States and around the world.

Lastly, Rillito provides an entertainment experience that simply cannot be matched by other sports. It is no coincidence that the track has been around for over 70 years. You have not experienced genuine excitement until you have cheered home a winning horse whom you have placed a bet on. Tucsonians are passionate about racing, as evidenced by the thousands

of fans who came out to the track in 2015. To take racing away from Rillito would be foolish.

I am optimistic that the Pima County Board of Supervisors will realize the positive impact that Rillito Park's racing has on Tucson's economy and on the University of Arizona's students. Thank you for your consideration, and happy holidays.

Sincerely,
Alexa Ravit

From: [Jacob](#)
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Park
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:46:48 PM

Please don't continue horse racing! Soccer is huge.

From: [TAKAKO KERMABON](#)
To: [District3](#); [District1](#); [District4](#); [District5](#); [DIST2](#)
Subject: Rillito Park
Date: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 9:31:59 AM

Hello,

I'd like to vote and request that Rillito Park race track to be changed to a park for kids.

Thank you,

Sincerely,
TSA family member
The Kermabons

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Park and Soccer Fields
Date: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 2:53:51 PM

Supervisor Sharon Bronson
district3@pima.gov
Pima County, Arizona
District 3
130 W. Congress, 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Ms. Bronson,

I am a parent of two girls 5 and 8 that are currently enrolled at Tucson Soccer Academy. It is my understanding that you are considering dedicating the entire space to soccer fields or race track. Please as a parent and community member I urge to consider dedicating the space to soccer fields. It is a great, safe and family friendly environment, where we all come together for practice and games. Please do not take this away from us. I thank you for your time.

Nancy Gracia-Gungor
Mother of Vanessa and Kayra Gungor

2625 W. Calle Tonala
Tucson, AZ 85745

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park
Date: Thursday, December 24, 2015 7:41:18 AM

From: Lee Peterson
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 9:04 PM
To: Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>; Ramon Valadez <Ramon.Valadez@pima.gov>; Richard Elias <Richard.Elias@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>
Subject: Rillito Park

To the Board of Supervisors,

I fully support the horse racing industry, I have been in the business for 35 yrs, Rillito Park supports so many people and their familys. I dont understand how you people can make a decision like this to shut the track down and have it affect so many peoples lives in a negative way! Please vote to have the track run races there!!!

Thank You!

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Saving Rillito Park
Date: Thursday, December 24, 2015 7:41:42 AM

From: Amy Elizabeth Euler
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 10:48 PM
To: Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Richard Elias <Richard.Elias@pima.gov>; Ramon Valadez <Ramon.Valadez@pima.gov>; Ally Miller <Ally.Miller@pima.gov>; Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>
Subject: Saving Rillito Park

Hello,

I am a native Tucsonan who my city. I am a sophomore at the University of Arizona in the Race Track Program. This program has really taken me out of my comfort zone and forced me to network with other people in the industry. As a result I have become interested in the opportunity to work at Rillito Park to gain experience and learn how the a track operates. I love this track because it represents an important part of Tucson history, it's a landmark for this city and the birth place of Quarter Horse racing. I have come to enjoy the casual atmosphere and family friendly environment. This also allows other students in the program to grow in this industry and meet people who share the same interests. Please do not take away this historic track, we don't need anymore soccer fields. I hope this helps influence your decision, Merry Christmas!

--

Sincerely
Amy Euler
University of Arizona Student
Race Track Program

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Supporters
Date: Thursday, December 24, 2015 9:22:50 AM

From: Alex Ortega

Sent: Thursday, December 24, 2015 9:20 AM

To: Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>; Ally Miller <Ally.Miller@pima.gov>; Ramon Valadez <Ramon.Valadez@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>

Subject: Rillito Supporters

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Alex Ortega, I am 55 years old and have been going to Rillito for 50 years with my parents and grandparents. In those days it was just a way of life, nothing special just what we did on the weekends. Little did know it was very special and have come to realize this with all the possible changes that seem to be taking place. I could go on to write a 10 page letter as to why I support Rillito Horse Racing, however let me just leave you with this thought. I believe with just one visit to our little track on a sunny Sunday afternoon would enlighten you as to all the different kinds of common folk are in attendance, all ages, all backgrounds with a county fair atmosphere. Please consider going forward with Rillito Horse Racing. It's not ever going to be Santa Anita , but that's all we got and that's good enough.

Best Regards,
Alex Ortega

From: notification@pima.gov
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Supervisor Sharon Bronson feedback form 2015-12-25 10:57 AM Submission Notification
Date: Friday, December 25, 2015 10:58:10 AM

Supervisor Sharon Bronson feedback form 2015-12-25 10:57 AM was submitted by Guest on 12/25/2015 10:57:58 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	Bonnie
Last Name	Engelbrecht
Email	
Phone	
Address	9060 W. George St.
City	
State	AZ
Zipcode	
District_of_Concern	Supervisor District 3 - Sharon Bronson
Department_of_concern	Other
Subject_or_Nature_of_Concern	Rillito Race Track
Comments	Good morning- I am writing to you in regards to the Rillito Race Track. I know that you have a vote coming up that concerns extending the lease and I know that there is a group who wants to do away with it and replace it with soccer fields. I hope that you will vote to extend the lease for the horse racing because I believe that both soccer and horseracing can coexist peacefully at this location and truthfully, Rillito Race Track is one of the few places left in Tucson that showcases what Tucson used to be. I am all for progress, but if progress means a total deletion of this asset to our community, then I am very sad to call myself a Tucson Native. Please let racing continue at Rillito Downs. Thank you for your time and happy holiday.
Would_like_a_response	No
Referred_Page	http://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=29936

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

From: [shayn sukta](#)
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Park Race Track
Date: Friday, December 25, 2015 2:23:59 PM

I am for Rillito Park Horse Racing. I will be watching your votes on this subject closely. My father in law, mother in law, wife, 19yo daughter, grandmother and brother will all be basing our future votes for County Supervisors largely based on this issue.

Shayn Sukta
7334 W Mesquite River Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85743

From: [Roys Mansur](#)
To: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: Rillito
Date: Saturday, December 26, 2015 12:07:30 PM

This letter is in support of keeping horse racing at Rillito Park. My family has run horses there since the early 50's and I had many good family experiences there. I am still in the business but have moved to northern Arizona and primarily run my horses at Phoenix. I am not against soccer although I think soccer will begin to cost you a lot more in insurance as it will be probably be proven that soccer, like football, can cause brain damage. Not to say horse racing isn't dangerous, but at least the participants are adults and supposedly know what they are doing - not kids.

Anyway, please, please keep horse racing at one of the best small tracks there is. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Roys Mansur
Camp Verde, AZ

From: [james mcknight](#)
To: [Sharon Bronson](#); [Ally Miller](#); [Ramon Valadez](#); [Richard Elias](#); [Ray Carroll](#); [Chuck Huckelberry](#); [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: I support Rillito Park Management Group
Date: Saturday, December 26, 2015 11:57:35 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing you to express my support for the management group of Rillito Park Race Track. I am a former employee of the track and am now just a racing fan who strongly supports the current group led by Jaye Wells. I have been going to Rillito since I was a kid growing up in Tucson in the 1970s and I think the current management group is doing a great job. Mr. Wells and his group have done an excellent job of promoting the track and making a day at the races in Tucson fun and enjoyable. The race track is not only fun for adults, but for kids as well. Many kids love horses and horse racing. I take my Mom and kids to the races with me every weekend and we have fun there. It is not only about gambling, but for the sport of it and seeing beautiful animals run. In Tucson there are limited sporting opportunities besides University of Arizona sports, so to lose the racetrack at Rillito would be a big loss for our community. I also played youth soccer and I am a soccer fan to this day, but there are many soccer fields all around Tucson, but only one horse track. Please help the management group of Rillito and allow them to keep doing the good job they are doing. Youth soccer AND horse racing can both thrive here in Tucson as long as you vote to help both parties.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

James McKnight

8915 E. Maple Leaf Drive
Tucson, AZ 85710

From: [John Aronson](#)
To: [District1](#); [DIST2](#); [District3](#); [District4](#); [District5](#)
Subject: Rillito Park Racetrack
Date: Sunday, December 27, 2015 7:13:47 PM

I am mystified by what appears to be a complete lack of support by the Board of Supervisors for the Racetrack and for the racing season. This is a very historic track that seems to be quite successful during its short season. We live above River Road across from the Racetrack. There is noise, but it does not bother us as much as the road noise. We essentially never attend the track, but frequently walk around the track admiring the horses. During the racing season we see literally thousands of patrons attending and apparently enjoying the sport. We assume that there is a large economic benefit to the region, as well as the publicity which accrues. The demise of the track would likely draw bad publicity from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, as well as from race fans across the Nation, including Mr. Baffert, trainer of American Pharoah.

It appears as if the issue has developed into a contest between the soccer and the racing supporters, and that is too bad. There are alternatives for soccer fields, but there is no alternative for the racing industry!

Florence and John Aronson
4871 N. Via Serenidad
Tucson, AZ 85718

From: [lara santavicca](#)
To: [District1](#)
Subject: Rillito Park
Date: Sunday, December 27, 2015 9:17:54 PM

Dear Board of supervisors:

It is my understanding that Rillito Park is under consideration for facility changes. As a relatively new resident here in Pima County, I am surprised at how few soccer fields/parks we have considering club demands for fields. I feel it would be poor planning to have "horse-racing" in the middle of the city. Surely there are facilities (rodeo fairgrounds, i.e.) a bit further out of city central that would be better suited for this activity. Meanwhile we are lacking public park facilities for our growing family population. Please consider appropriating Rillito Park for soccer use and family enjoyment exclusively. Thank you for keeping Tucson wholesome and enjoyable for our families.

THANKS!

Lara Santavicca { Bella & Gigi's mom }

*8 Blythe Spirit Yoga 8
be the person your dog thinks you are!*

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Multi Use Park 2/2
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 8:24:45 AM

From: Kekic Family
Sent: Sunday, December 27, 2015 5:16 PM
To: Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>
Subject: Rillito Multi Use Park

Please do not push Horse Racing out of Rillito Down. There is no reason that Rillito Park can not be a multi use facility. There is room for soccer, horse racing and more. Please do not push Horse Racing out of Rillito.

Please!!!!!!!!!!!!

S. Kekic
85705

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com



From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito racetrack 2/2
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 8:24:57 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: J Grimes
Sent: Sunday, December 27, 2015 1:15 PM
To: Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>
Subject: Rillito racetrack

I am emailing you today in support of maintaining the land of Rillito Racetrack as a multi use facility and allowing racing to continue. As a racetrack veterinarian at practices in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, and several other states, I can tell you the monumental impact horse racing provides to local economies. The horses and horsemen travel long distances to race during this meet, and bring with them owners who stay in hotels and eat in local restaurants. Grooms and support staff who shop in local stores. The horses require hay, feed, shavings, and other supplies, all sourced from local merchants. There are also additional ancillary services required by these horses such as farrier/blacksmiths, veterinarians, dental providers, etc. This outside revenue can add up to millions of dollars of local revenue, that many merchants count on during the racing season. Please continue to support racing at Rillito Park.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Grimes, DVM

From:
To: [Ally Miller; District1](#)
Cc: [Sharon Bronson; District3; raymon.valadez@pima.gov; DIST2; Ray Carroll; District4; Richard Elias; District5](#)
Subject: Support of horse racing at Rillito Park.
Date: Saturday, December 26, 2015 6:45:50 PM

My wife and I support horse racing at Rillito Park. We were surprised and angry to learn that the contract with Rillito Park Foundation was postponed and could prevent racing in 2016. We strongly encourage you to come to an agreement that will keep horse racing at our Tucson original and historic horse racing park. We vote and we support continuing horse racing at Rillito Park.

Sincerely
D. Micheal Walters - a Tucson native
4741 N Paseo Saric
Tucson, Az 85750

Sent from my iPad

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park Foundation 1/19 Agenda Item
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 8:26:24 AM

From: Sally Wegner
Date: December 24, 2015 at 3:29:33 PM MST
To: <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>, <ally.miller@pima.gov>, <ramon.valadez@pima.gov>, <richard.elias@pima.gov>, <ray.carroll@pima.gov>
Subject: **Rillito Park Foundation**

Please extend the current contract with the Rillito Park Foundation for one year. During that time, observe the benefit to the community and the benefit to Southern Arizona that the Foundation has already achieved. Given the positive work of the Foundation to date, a longer contract will provide Pima County with a most viable property.

Sincerely,
Sally C. Wegner

From: [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park Race Track
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 9:07:24 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Schnoor
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 11:46 AM
To: Sharon Bronson; District3; Ally Miller; District1; Ramon Valadez; DIST2; Ray Carroll; District4; Richard Elias; District5
Subject: Rillito Park Race Track

Hello All,

My name is Kevin Schnoor and I am a graduate student in Racetrack Industry Program at the University of Arizona.

I strongly urge you to allow operations to exist at Rillito Park. The hands on experience the we receive at Rillito is invaluable to furthering our growth as students and allowing us to assimilate into the business world. Many of us travel thousands of miles (I'm from New Jersey) to come here knowing we will be getting this experience and it really would be unfortunate given the amount of time and money we spent to come out here and pursue this career.

Not only will it affect me and the rest of the students in terms of our career path, the local economy would take a hit as well. Many trainers and breeders have been working for months to get their horses ready for this meet and many people work at the racetrack. Closing it would hurt the local economy greatly.

I strongly urge you to reconsider your push to close Rillito Park Race Track. I think it will be beneficial to everyone.

Happy holidays.

Best,
Kevin Schnoor

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Turn Rillito to soccer fields
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 9:15:05 AM

Please count us in favor of converting Rillito to soccer and moving the horseracing somewhere else.

E H Quintana
3029 N Gaia Pl
Tucson AZ 85745

Sent from my iPhone

From:
To: [District3](#); [District1](#)
Subject: Soccer at rillito
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 9:24:57 AM

Hello PCBS members,

As a parent of an avid soccer player I urge you to restrict the use of Rillito park to youth sports. Soccer is a massive economic impact in Tucson and it keeps those squirmy kids busy for some part of each day if you're lucky. As a 25 year resident of Tucson I've never once been to the horse track to see racing but I've spent countless hours sitting on sidelines for soccer.

I admire the structure of the grandstand but I feel consolidating horse operations to the fairgrounds would be great - Rillito is now so

central in Tucson - the fairgrounds are much more pastoral for equine pursuits and I'm sure those horses would be happier and it'd be easier to pull off the freeway for horse trucks.

Anyway please add my support to the youth sports column.

Thank you

Sent from Bridget Barber's phone

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Letter concerning soccer
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 9:47:32 AM

Hello,

I am writing as a mother of two young soccer players here in Tucson. It is very important to us as a family to have the support of the city for children's activities such as sports. The Rillito raceway park is needing major renovations and is very old. Moving the raceway would be ideal.

Expanding the soccer fields would fulfill the needs and demands of the expanding soccer needs. We are always waiting for open fields and moving around. Soccer is a Growing activity in Tucson. Both for children and adults.

This would bring money to our city.

Thank you so much for your time

Jackie Eyrich

Sent from my iPhone

From: Feliari
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Please keep Rilloto Park for soccer only!
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 10:14:47 AM

Sent from my Sprint phone

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Keep Rillito open 2/2
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 2:26:18 PM

From: ADENIO [<mailto:ADENIO>]

Sent: Monday, December 28, 2015 2:03 PM

To: Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>; Ally Miller <Ally.Miller@pima.gov>; Ramon Valadez <Ramon.Valadez@pima.gov>; Richard Elias <Richard.Elias@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>

Cc: Marilyn **Subject:** Keep Rillito open

Honorable Supervisors,

I'm wearing my Rillito Park t-shirt as I write from California to implore you to keep the park open to horse racing. The horse racing industry employs many people throughout the state who contribute so much to the local economy. Turning the park into a soccer-only venue would not be in the County's financial interests. I have raced horses at the park in the past, and I contribute to local horse rescue farms. Also, the RTIP program at the U of Arizona is a major source of new blood and talent for the nationwide racing industry, and having local opportunities for its graduates will help the program continue to thrive. I encourage you to keep these thoughts in mind as you make this important decision. Thank you for your consideration,

Art DeNio
1515 Arlington Blvd.
El Cerrito, CA 94530
[adenio](#)

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From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Horse Racing 2/2
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 2:26:34 PM

From: Milo Perrins
Date: December 28, 2015 at 1:18:42 PM MST
To: <ramon.valdez@pima.gov>, <ally.miller@pima.gov>, <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>, <ray.carroll@pima.gov>, <richard.elis@pima.gov>
Subject: **Rillito Horse Racing**

Dear Supervisors,

As parents we wish to see all children enjoying the best available sporting facilities. As a horse racing industry professional I have worked all across the country. It has been a great pleasure to coach youth sports of all types. I have watched time and again as separate interests battle for funds, field time, talent and control. While this may be human nature, never did it occur to me to impart the lesson upon the children involved that the solution was the banishment of competing interests.

For brevity I will refrain from pointing out the glaring inconsistencies in the case being made for the eviction of horse racing from it's rightful home in Tucson. I will condemn the premise.

As parents and citizens we will always promote solutions that call for conciliation while rejecting those that call for needless exclusivity. This proven and balanced approach points out the only fair and truthful resolution to the manufactured "conflict" between horse racing and soccer. What a wonderful chance to promote a lesson of peaceful coexistence.

In reverse it would be underhanded to use the "nasty old horse racing vs. children" argument to satisfy other agendas that obviously flavor this issue.

The truth is we know that neither interest holds dominion over the other. One party accepts conciliation while the other insists on exclusivity. Why?

The Rillito race meet represents the peak of a mountain that thousands of people have joined together to climb. Each horse that's competes in Tucson was years in the making. Countless hours of labor and millions of dollars have been expended on horse farms across Arizona, and the country, to compete at the planned on race meet in 2016. The financial contribution to the local and state economy is a measurable fact.

It is not possible to ignore the history involved. The birthplace of Quarter Horse racing. Home to many firsts in racing. Dozens of University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program students launched productive careers at Rillito. 2016 Triple Crown winner American Pharoa is trained by a former RTIP student that scored his first ever victory right here in Tucson. Several race track announcers began on the Arizona fair circuit and went on to major race tracks. Some of the

greatest Quarter Horses ever started here. The list is endless and the legacy priceless, undeniable.

This storied and dynamic part of Tucson cannot be blithely tossed away so one interest can enjoy life unhindered by the presence of another.

Please. Hold an immediate meeting to ensure the imminent 2016 meeting AND the continuation of this vital part of the rich tapestry of Pima County.

Respectfully,
Milo Perrins

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 3:33:51 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: May
Sent: Monday, December 28, 2015 3:28 PM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito

Please put Pima County Youth ahead of horses and move racing to the fair grounds and convert Rillito to a year round soccer complex.

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 3:34:12 PM

From: Amy DeCamp
Sent: Monday, December 28, 2015 2:14 PM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito Park

Hello Sharon,

I am emailing to urge you to consider converting Rillio into a park for our children. Soccer is a sport that is becoming popular for children in our community, but we lack the field space. Over the past 10 years, the sport has grown considerably, but fields have not. This would also bring in more people from outside our community to Tucson for games and tournaments. I urge you to move the race track to the fair grounds and help grow Rillito for our children.

Thank you for your time,
Amy DeCamp

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Horse Racing at Rillito Park 1/19
Date: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 9:31:03 AM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joan D'Alonzo
Date: December 28, 2015 at 8:58:41 AM MST
To: <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>
Subject: Horse Racing at Rillito Park

Dear Supervisor Bronson,

I am writing to express my strong support for the continuation of horse racing at Rillito Park. I am a Pima County taxpayer in your district, as well as someone who has been involved in horse racing for most of my life. Rillito Park is a historic landmark which draws huge crowds every year during the race meet, and is an asset to the community. While I understand the desire for more soccer fields, it seems to me that the new track management has bent over backward to compromise with the soccer supporters in an effort to co-exist. I urge you to support the continuation of the contract with the Southern Arizona Horse Racing Association to manage Rillito Park as a multi-use facility.

Sincerely,

Joan D'Alonzo
10500 W Anthony Dr
Tucson, AZ 85743

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Soccer fields at Rillito
Date: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 1:40:29 PM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)

From: Bruce Tennenbaum
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 11:48 AM
To: District3
Subject: Soccer fields at Rillito

Supervisor Sharon Bronson

It is very important to this community to make Soccer fields at Rillito and move the race track out to Pima county fairgrounds More soccer fields in this community will bring millions of dollars to Tucson.

Thankyou

Bruce Tennenbaum – President

1127 N Rook Ave

Tucson, AZ 85712

Office: 520-886-PEST (7378) ext 104



Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Race Track
Date: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 1:56:54 PM

From: William Garrison
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 12:26 PM
To: Sharon Bronson
Cc: District3
Subject: Rillito Race Track

Please do whatever you can to save racing at Rillito Park. When I moved to Tucson 20 years ago the main attractions for me were Spring Training, Minor League baseball, and racing at Rillito Park. Baseball is now gone and horse racing has been jerked around by real estate developers and soccer leagues and others on an almost yearly basis. Last year the new group created a multi-use facility with the farmers market and soccer and racing coexisting with other festivals that have traditionally used the grounds. A lot of people thought that things were settled and that racing would continue. Now racing is threatened by a Soccer Academy business that thinks they should have the whole park.

The Ft. Lowell Shootout brings in large groups and teams from all over the region and they are successful without using any of the fields at Rillito. There are many parks and soccer fields all over the Tucson area, but there is only one racetrack, right where it has always been, beside the Rillito River.

Little League and soccer fields are necessary for kids but there are adults in Pima County too! There is plenty of room at Rillito Park for both.

Thank you,

Bill Garrison

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park
Date: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 1:58:37 PM

From: Mike Kalina
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 6:39 AM
To: District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
Cc: Michael Kalina
Subject: Rillito Park

Supervisors

I am writing in support of continuing horse racing at Rillito Park.

I have children who have grown up playing soccer at various fields across town, as well as multiple out-of-town tournaments. I am very surprised that a soccer town like Tucson does not have a large soccer complex comparable to Phoenix's "Reach 11", but I think there are locations other than Rillito Park to construct one somewhere near the Tucson Premium Outlets off Twin Peaks road would most likely draw large participation and financial benefit to the community.

Sincerely,
Mike Kalina

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Race Track/ Park
Date: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 8:22:27 AM

From: Carracingtrigirl
Date: December 29, 2015 at 7:46:12 PM MST
To: <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>
Cc: <chh@pima.gov>
Subject: **Rillito Race Track/ Park**

I am writing to request that you vote to extend the contract for the race season for 2016 in your meeting on January 5, 2016. It is a good thing for the county, with the extra revenue brought in, as well as being a good thing for all the people who attend, and the U of A students who help at the track. Rillito Park should be a multi use park, as there are numerous soccer fields available when the track is in use. Thank you for your consideration. Karen Chaney

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park
Date: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 10:21:08 AM

From: Philip Mota
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 11:07 PM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito Park

Dear Sharon,

I am writing to express my feeling about Rillito Park. I have fond memories of Rillito soccer fields before there were ever fields inside the horse race track. I was about 10 when I first played there. I am 27 now and have been coaching youth soccer for the last 3 years. My teams use these fields every year and I am soo grateful to see the park develop thus far. One of the biggest issues I've encountered while coaching is field space. There is a shortage of soccer fields to begin with and the usual fields get worn quickly in our environment with out ample time to rest or recover from constant usage. I am positive that having Rillito park entirely dedicated to park and soccer field space will greatly benefit generations to come.

Thank You for your time and consideration.

Philip Mota

TVSC Coaching Staff

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito park horse racing
Date: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 10:21:38 AM

From: Vic Oliver
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 8:47 PM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito park horse racing

Mrs. Chairman,,,I'm contacting you in regards to the future of Rillito park horse racing....Rillito has been a landmark in the history of horse racing for almost 75 years....It has survived thru ups and downs of many managers through these times,and still survives,do to dedicated horse peopleThe Tucson area has a huge following of race horse people,who rely on Rillito as their base hub for this activity...Also a local university that benefits from the activities of Rillito...The recent managers Rillito Park Foundation have been a god send to Rillito,and have turned this Park into a great place for all activities....I know that if the foundation and the Pima county managers work together,this historic park could be a great sporting complex for everyone to enjoy..I'm asking you to please consider keeping horse racing at Rillito for everyone to enjoy...I think everyone would be of benefit from from it in our joint efforts...Please Arizona does not need to loose another great race track...Tucson was once the Quarter Horse Capital of the US...We need to regain that status with this growing sport , which is growing each year! Thank you for your time ...And again please consider this request.....Thank You,,,,,,,,,Vic Oliver..

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Horse Racing
Date: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 1:19:11 PM

From: Ford Cook

Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 1:17 PM

To: Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>; Ally Miller <Ally.Miller@pima.gov>; Ramon Valadez <Ramon.Valadez@pima.gov>; Richard Elias <Richard.Elias@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>

Subject: Horse Racing

Dear Pima County

Being involved in Racing since 1974 I'm disturbed that a great Quarter Horse racing historical track is being considered to be turned into Soccer Fields. A town like Tuscon needs diverse entertainment for adults, snowbirds and something generating taxes. Please consider your votes and move forward as to not put this racing season in Jeopardy by delaying the start of the state awarded dates in January.

**Thanks and Regards
Ford Cook**

Randy Olson
100 Banks Ave.
Rockville Centre, NY 11570

12/29/2015

Pima County Board of Supervisors
130 W Congress St
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Pima County Board of Supervisors:

It has recently come to my attention that the Pima County Supervisors have delayed making a decision on how the county owned, Rillito Park, should be managed moving forward. This decision does not only effect the Rillito Park Horse Race meet temporarily, but could also have long term affects. This matter is of utmost concern to me because the horse races at Rillito Park proved to be a key pillar to my success in the horse racing industry today.

After considering multiple areas of study, I ultimately decided to attend the University of Arizona because of their Race Track Industry Program (RTIP). The RTIP is designed to provide students with opportunities and skills needed to pursue a career in the horse racing industry. Of those opportunities the most attractive to me was the relationship the RTIP had with Rillito Park and the Rillito Park Foundation. Each student in the RTIP was given the chance to interview with the possibility of working at Rillito Park during the live racing season. In my eyes there is no better experience than hands on experience, so I interviewed and was hired as a TV Analyst and Track Handicapper. My duties at the track were to lead handicapping seminars, provide live on air analysis of horses, provide a daily tip sheet, and make the morning line odds. All real hands on experience that I would have never received if it wasn't for the Rillito Park horse races.

Since graduating in the spring of 2015 I was lucky enough to land myself a full time position working for the New York Racing Association as a Pari-Mutuel Analytics and Operations Associate. The time I spent and the experience I gained while working at Rillito Park greatly influenced my success in the horse racing industry thus far. Rillito Park not only provided hands on experience, but it provided me with real life experience that I can take to any job. Everything from the interview process to dealing with people in a real work environment at the track are skills I can take anywhere. Rillito Park greatly influenced my success and it is my hope that the race track will be able to continue operating to do the same for students in the future.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Randy Olson
New York Racing Association
Pari-Mutuel Analytics and Operations Associate

From:
To: [District3](#)
Subject: Rillito Park Racetrack
Date: Friday, January 1, 2016 9:48:44 AM

Please keep horse racing at Rillito! The historical significance of the track alone should be enough to prevent it from being torn down but beyond that, it is one of a kind entertainment for Tucson. It is a fun place to take my kids that is not replicated anywhere else in the area. We need the variety of entertainment here!

When my kids play soccer, we can go to any of the other 100ish fields in town. While I appreciate that a certain number of fields are needed for a championship facility, there are plenty of other places in Pima County to build a soccer field cluster but only one historically significant location for horse racing in the area.

Plus, I was making big plans for a horse racing Valentine's date with my husband this year. Don't be the cause of my 15 year marriage falling apart due to a lack of a Valentine's Day date! Just kidding, but I really do think Tucson benefits from the race track! Please keep horse racing at Rillito!

Suzanne Anderson

Proud soccer fan since I was 7, horse racing fan since I was 10, and resident of Pima County since I was 20

From:
To: [District1](#); [DIST2](#); [District3](#); [District4](#); [District5](#)
Subject: Rillito
Date: Sunday, January 3, 2016 11:45:53 AM

Dear Pima County Board of Supervisors,

Below is an editorial submitted to the Arizona Daily Star. Because of your upcoming meeting regarding horse racing, I felt you should have a copy. I would be happy to provide you with even more facts, figures and reminders of past BOS votes at your request.

Supervisors Made a Good Decision

The County Supervisors made a very good decision to not rubber-stamp the eleventh-hour proposal to extend horse racing for 25 years.

While I served on the Pima County Parks and Rec Commission, it was exposed that the previous operators of Rillito horse racing not only had very sketchy financial statements, but had been paying less for leasing the entire facility for 3 months than other non-profits paid for just 3 days. The president of the Rillito Park Foundation correctly stated that this is the first time an audit has been required. We should be asking County Administration why an audit has not been required every year. And surely, with only one season of data that ended last March, the current operators should have been able to finish the audit before mid-December.

In addition to the overdue audit, the proposed contract that the County Administration submitted contained no estimates or information as to the County's obligations – our, the taxpayers' obligations - regarding long-term maintenance/improvements, even though in 2009 the BOS passed unanimously that the horse racing operators should be responsible for the maintenance of their own facility.

Although a non-profit, horse racing runs as a virtual business that Pima County is subsidizing. They retain, food, beverage, alcohol, parking and betting money while operating out of a County facility, at a reduced lease rate.

In 2006, the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to convert Rillito to a youth sports facility. The horse racing people say why move when they have a perfectly good facility?

The truth is that the facility is far from perfectly good. A 2007 engineering report presented to the PCBOS showed numerous structural, ADA and other safety issues.

Horse racing popularity has been diminishing across the country and world-wide. Of the tracks that remain open, very few are profitable. Rillito racing would not survive without our County taxpayer dollars and the only people making money are the horse racing operators.

At Rillito, we have the start of a wonderful youth sports complex that cannot even be used during horse racing. So Pima County is foregoing the opportunity to make millions of dollars from numerous youth sports events.

Pima County does not have money to fix our streets and potholes, but Mr. Huckleberry and the horse racing operators are asking for millions of dollars to

subsidize horse racing yet again. And \$500,000 was just spent to build new barns for the exclusive use of horse racing? Where do the BOS think their constituents want the money to go? Roads or horse racing?

Supervisor Valedez, I agree, why ARE you still voting on this?

Please feel free to contact me at
questions.

if you have further

Regards,

Stephanie Maben

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park Foundation
Date: Monday, January 4, 2016 8:01:19 AM

From:

Date: January 2, 2016 at 11:53:08 AM MST

To: <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>, <ally.miller@pima.gov>, <ramon.valdez@pima.gov>, <ray.carroll@pima.gov>, <richard.elias@pima.gov>

Subject: Rillito Park Foundation

As a long time resident of Pima County (almost 50 years), I have attended the horse races at Rillito Park for most of those years. It is with dismay that I learn that Pima County doesn't plan on renewing their contract with the Rillito Park Foundation which would put an end to racing. I would urge you to please vote in favor of renewing the contract in order that racing can once again be held at Rillito.

Jaye Wells and his group did an excellent job running the race meet last year and really brought it up to a higher standard, one which we can all be proud of. The food was delicious, the tables in the clubhouse all had tablecloths and fresh flowers, both the grandstand and clubhouse had been cleaned up and painted, beautiful art work displayed on the walls, the saddling paddock had lovely flowers, etc. I believe this added to the enthusiasm of the race fans.

Another thing the Board should consider is the loss of income for all the employees that are hired during the race meet as well as those not directly employed, i.e. hay sales, veterinarians, security forces, vendors, etc. These people depend on this additional income and it will be a substantial loss to them.

Thank you for your consideration and once again and I hope there's a favorable outcome for racing when you meet again this week.

Sincerely,

Helen Sanders
16355 N. Lago del Oro Parkway
Tucson 85739

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park
Date: Monday, January 4, 2016 8:01:36 AM

From:

Sent: Sunday, January 3, 2016 12:11 PM

To: Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>; Ally Miller <Ally.Miller@pima.gov>; Ramon Valadez <Ramon.Valadez@pima.gov>; Richard Elias <Richard.Elias@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>

Subject: Rillito Park

Dear Supervisors,

Please support Rillito Park Foundation to operate and keep the park a multi purpose park in which includes horse racing.

This historic race track needs you to protect and preserve it. You hold it's future in your decisions.

My grandchildren will experience all that park has to offer, from soccer games, to shopping at farmers market, and most of all, to the exciting thunder of quarter horse racing. The home of many famous quarter horses and our very own triple crown winner, Bob Baffert.

Please vote YES to Rillito Park Foundation continuing horse racing in 2016, and for many years to come!

Sandy Johnston

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park Foundation
Date: Tuesday, January 5, 2016 1:00:00 PM

From: James Jelks

Date: January 5, 2016 at 11:44:45 AM MST

To: "sharon.bronson@pima.gov" <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>, "ally.miller@pima.gov" <ally.miller@pima.gov>, "ramon.valadez@pima.gov" <ramon.valadez@pima.gov>, "ray.carrol@pima.gov" <ray.carrol@pima.gov>, "richard.ellis@pima.gov" <richard.ellis@pima.gov>

Cc: Jaye Wells <jwells@rillitoparkfoundation.org>, Keri Jelks Daniel Jelks

Subject: Rillito Park Foundation

Reply-To: James Jelks

Dear Honorable Board of Supervisors,

My names is James Jelks and I am a Grandson of the founder of Rillito Park and the Jelks Stud Farm, J. Rukin Jelks, Sr. I write to ask for your supporting roll in the development of the Rillito Park Foundation (RPF) and the multi use scope the Foundation encompasses. The Jelks family has pledged the majority of memorabilia my Grandfather amassed during his career in creating the quarter horse racing industry. We are proud of our heritage and for the great strides that have been made with the development of the RPF and the preservation of Tucson history. Thank you for you time and consideration. Sincerely yours, James Jelks

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Keep horse racing at Rillito track
Date: Tuesday, January 5, 2016 4:46:38 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Jean lewis
Sent: Tuesday, January 5, 2016 4:14 PM
To: Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>; Ally Miller <Ally.Miller@pima.gov>; Ramon Valadez <Ramon.Valadez@pima.gov>; Richard Elias <Richard.Elias@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>
Cc: Jean lewis
Subject: Keep horse racing at Rillito track

Dear Board of Supervisors;

Please please keep Rillito Park a racetrack for part time horse racing. I do not know why this compromise cannot be reached. Horse racing, as you know has been here for years and is only a few months of a year. Lets not displace the owner and trainers and jockeys from their jobs.

I retired and moved to this area because of small track horse racing to enjoy, believe it or not. I love taking my friends and family to the track during the winter.

Please find a way to keep horse racing, not only this year, but for generations to enjoy. U of A equine program is sought after and this would also hurt the program.

I do not see why this is such an issue. There are plenty of soccer fields, but only one Rillito Race Track. Please preserve the horse racing.

Thank you,

Jean Lewis
Retired person and thoroughbred horse lover

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Soccer Fields
Date: Wednesday, January 6, 2016 11:32:26 AM

From: Ben K
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 12:40 AM
To: District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
Subject: Fwd: Soccer Fields

Pima County District Supervisors,

Please read my response to Mr. Schmidt's plea to voice against the races at Rillito Park. As a past player for Mountain View HS, Pima, Tucson Fireballs, and Tucson Tiburons I am as pro soccer as it gets. As a coach and director for Sereno soccer club and Catalina Foothills I believe it would be a irreversible mistake to stop the races at the park and move toward the closure and possible demolition of the horse facilities and grandstand as they are now. My message below goes into further detail but as a community we need to allow for all parties to use our public land and to preserve our heritage and historic sites. Please I urge you to do the correct thing and keep the races and facilities alive.

Sincerely,
Ben Kososkie

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ben K**
Date: Wed, Jan 6, 2016 at 12:25 AM
Subject: Re: Soccer Fields
To: Ted Schmidt

Ted,

I of course am one of the biggest advocates for Tucson soccer but closing and demolishing the race track is not the answer. I grew up playing here in Tucson and I was also one of the very first players in the city to play a game at Rillito as part of the Tucson Fireballs. Little do many know but I actually was the 1st to perceive the idea of soccer being played at Rillito when the Fireballs were looking for a home and helped facilitate the agreement between the club and the county. At that time the management of the races held all the cards and our fate and they did not stand in our way of using the facility, they actually helped us. I think it's a shame that as a group the soccer community are trying to claim the area for themselves with no thought to other parties. This is not the correct stance and not a lesson that I want to teach our kids. Community is about sharing and we need not forget that. The historical significance of the track and grandstand are also of great importance and I believe it is a part Tucson's Heritage and Culture. If I would have ever thought that the soccer community would look to destroy this facility I would have never embarked on the course to use the facility for soccer. Be a community leader and do the correct thing and become a advocate for an equitable stance.

Sincerely,

Ben Kososkie

On Tue, Jan 5, 2016 at 11:53 AM, Ted Schmidt wrote:
I am writing you because I know you are a friend of youth soccer. The Arizona Youth Soccer Ass'n and Pima County Junior Soccer League desperately need 5 minutes of your time.

On January 19, 2016 the Pima County Board of Supervisors is going to decide whether or not to renew the lease for horse racing at Rillito Park in Tucson. If they decide not to renew the lease we will not only eliminate all the conflicts between playing soccer there on horse race days but create a very strong potential to convert the entire park into soccer fields.

Please take just 5 minutes and send an e-mail or letter to each member of the Pima County Board of Supervisors urging them to vote against renewing the race horse lease and in favor of our kids and youth soccer. Thank you.

Supervisor Sharon Bronson

district3@pima.gov

Pima County, Arizona

District 3

130 W. Congress, 11th Floor

Tucson, AZ 85701

Supervisor Ally Miller

district1@pima.gov

Pima County, Arizona

District 1

130 W. Congress 11th Floor

Tucson, AZ 85701

Supervisor Ray Carroll

district4@pima.gov

Pima County, Arizona

District 4

130 W. Congress 11th Floor

Tucson, AZ 85701

Supervisor Richard Elías

District5@pima.gov

Pima County, Arizona

District 5

130 W. Congress St. 11th Fl.

Tucson, AZ 85701

Supervisor Ramón Valadez

district2@pima.gov

Pima County, Arizona

District 2

130 W. Congress, 11th Floor

Tucson, AZ 85701

Ted Schmidt

V.P. AYSA

President PCJSL

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Horse racing, Rillito Park
Date: Wednesday, January 6, 2016 11:32:43 AM

From: maria p. arvizu
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 7:26 PM
To: District3
Subject: Horse racing, Rillito Park

Please don't vote for renewing for horse racing we need this space for more soccer fields for our children.

Happy Connecting. Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S® 5 Sport

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: Save the Rillito Race Track
Date: Thursday, January 7, 2016 1:23:56 PM

From: Ann Gilkerson
Date: January 7, 2016 at 11:31:39 AM MST
To: <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>
Cc: Ann Gilkerson
Subject: **Save the Rillito Race Track**

Dear Supervisor Bronson,

I write to urge you to save the Rillito Race Track and instead plan to build more soccer fields in other Tucson parks. As an architectural historian who grew up in Tucson and have returned recently after several decades of living elsewhere, I have a real appreciation for our rapidly disappearing western heritage, and now understand how crucial it is to save this outstanding facility for future generations. It is important as a distinguished architectural monument, as an economic and cultural engine, and also for its distinctive riverside setting that serves as a connector between the city, river and foothills.

Moreover, the proposed mixed use plan has real merit and will accommodate many needs. And while Rillito Park already has several soccer fields, those in my neighborhood park, Fort Lowell, are rarely used. Perhaps the county could look at the soccer field problem on a regional level.

There are several stables in my neighborhood that impart a distinctive character to the Fort Lowell area, and saving the Rillito Race Track would help to strengthen the horse culture of the broader river corridor area.

And with Tucson's recent designation as a UNESCO City of Gastronomy, the importance of the recently founded farmer's market will continue to grow.

And finally, I would like to bring your attention to Golden Gate Fields Race Track in Albany and Berkeley CA, where a 1941 thoroughbred facility has been saved and is now a thriving economic force in the community.

Again, I ask you to preserve the Rillito Race Track for its great architectural, social, cultural and economic significance to Tucson.

Sincerely,

Ann Gilkerson, Ph.D.
Independent Architectural Historian
2902 N. Beverly Ave.
Tucson 85712

From: [Robin Brigode](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: KEEP RILLITO OPEN
Date: Friday, January 8, 2016 4:12:02 PM

From: Bob Morgan
Sent: Friday, January 8, 2016 4:08 PM
To: Sharon Bronson <Sharon.Bronson@pima.gov>; Ally Miller <Ally.Miller@pima.gov>; ramon.valadez@ima.gov; Richard Elias <Richard.Elias@pima.gov>; Ray Carroll <Ray.Carroll@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>; Robin Brigode <Robin.Brigode@pima.gov>
Cc: 'Ed & Sharon Bloom'
Subject: KEEP RILLITO OPEN

Good afternoon ~

I would like to add my name in support of keeping the Rillito Race Track open as well.

Sincerely,

Bob Morgan

Green Valley resident

Open letter to Pima County Administrator, District Supervisors

sharon.bronson@pima.gov;
ally.miller@pima.gov;
ramon.valadez@ima.gov;
richard.elias@pima.gov;
ray.carroll@pima.gov;
chh@pima.gov;
robin.brigode@pima.gov

SUBJECT: KEEP RILLITO OPEN

The race track not only supports the community, but provides employment in the following ways, and should be keep operating has much as possible;
I know patrons that travel from Green Valley to enjoy a day of racing also are customers of the Tucson area restaurants and local shops increasing their revenue
Rillito Park racing employs and provides a source of income for jockeys, trainers, veterinarians, farriers, tack shops, grooms, horse transportation, farmers, mutual clerks, concessionaires, track staff etc.

All these positions generate jobs and income for the county, not to mention the many people who come to enjoy the races; any delay will cost the tax-payers and all the above mentioned too much, Pima County is a government by the people for the people, and should not encumber Rillito Park and their racing operation for reasons

given.

Ed Bloom,
Green Valley

From: [Jennifer Cabrera](#) on behalf of [District3](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Cc: [Robin Brigode](#)
Subject: FW: Rillito Park
Date: Monday, January 11, 2016 10:01:21 AM

Jenn Cabrera
Supervisor Sharon Bronson's Office
District 3
520-724-8051

Check out our [Facebook Page](#)

From: cheryl burk
Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2016 7:52 PM
To: District3
Subject: Rillito Park

I am requesting that the district 3 supervisor work to keep our historic land mark, the Rillito horse track. Soccer fields can go anywhere, and we have only one racetrack. It is imperative to keep our city's history.

Thank you.

Cheryl Burk
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