

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 28th, 2025

To: Melissa Manriquez, Clerk of the Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Jennifer Allen
Pima County Supervisor for District 3 and Vice Chair of the Pima County Board of Supervisors
33 N. Stone Ave, 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: Resolution for Suzanne Shields Bridge

Dear Melissa,

Please add the following item to the Addendum for the August 5th, 2025 meeting of the Pima County Board of Supervisors:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 – ~~XX~~, of the Pima County Board of Directors of the Pima County Regional Flood Control District naming a loop pedestrian bridge in honor of former director Suzanne J. Shields, P.E.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PIMA COUNTY REGIONAL FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT NAMING A LOOP PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE IN HONOR OF FORMER DIRECTOR SUZANNE J. SHIELDS, P.E.

WHEREAS, Suzanne Shields served as a Pima County employee for 37 years and for 17 of those years served as the Director of the Pima County Regional Flood Control District, and

WHEREAS, Suzanne began working for the County in 1978, becoming the first hydrologist to work for the newly formed Flood Control District, and

WHEREAS, after the 1983 Flood, Suzanne authored a paper on the use of soil cement, which is a mix of natural soil dug from the river itself and Portland cement to form a rigid durable material that protects property from erosion, as an economical, practical, effective, and environmentally attractive alternative to concrete, and

WHEREAS, soil cement now lines all of the regional watercourse including the Santa Cruz, Rillito and Pantano, which has presented Pima County with a serendipitous recreation opportunity, since the maintenance roads turned out to be great places to build a multi-use trail (The Loop), and

WHEREAS, Suzanne's other invaluable contributions to the County have included countless flood control and environmental enhancement projects including Arroyo Chico stormwater detention basins, the Kino Environmental Restoration Project, the Paseo de las Iglesias project, the Canoa Ranch pond Restoration Project, and

WHEREAS, during her time as Director of the District, the District improved Pima County's Community Rating Score with the Federal Emergency Management Administration to a Class 3 which places the County among the top one percent of communities in the United States, and

WHEREAS, during her time as Director of the District, the District completed construction of more than 138 miles of the Loop, and commissioned a recreational plan element as part of the District's Santa Cruz River Management Plan, completed in 2021, and

WHEREAS, the District has constructed a pedestrian bridge across the Santa Cruz River to improve maintenance access and enhance usability for pedestrians and cyclists on the Grant Road to Camino del Cerro Road segment of the Loop, and

WHEREAS, naming the pedestrian bridge in honor of Suzanne Shields recognizes her legacy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Directors of the Pima County Regional Flood Control District honors the legacy of Suzanne Shields by naming the bridge, the Suzanne Shields Santa Cruz River Pedestrian Bridge.

Passed and adopted by the Pima County Board of Directors, this _____ day of _____, 2025.

ATTEST

Melissa Manriquez, Clerk of the Board

Rex Scott, Chairman
Pima County Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Bobby Yu, Deputy County Attorney