



Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection

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AGENDA MATERIAL

DATE 10/14/25 ITEM NO. RA 66

October 9, 2025

Arizona Center for Law in
the Public Interest
Arizona Master Naturalist
Association
Arizona Native Plant Society
Arizona-Sonora Desert
Museum
Bat Conservation
International
Cascabel Conservation
Association
Center for Biological
Diversity
Center for Environmental
Ethics
DarkSky Southern Arizona
Defenders of Wildlife
Environmental Law Society
Friends of Ironwood Forest
Friends of Saguaro National
Park
Friends of Tortolita
Gates Pass Area
Neighborhood Association
Great Old Broads for
Wilderness - Tucson
Living Desert Alliance
Maricopa Bird Alliance
Native Seeds/SEARCH
Save the Scenic Santa Ritas
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon
Chapter
Sierra Club - Nopales Group
Sky Island Alliance
Tortolita Alliance
Tucson Bird Alliance
Tucson Herpetological
Society
Tucson Mountains
Association
Wildlands Network

Rex Scott, Chairman and District 1 Supervisor
Pima County Board of Supervisors
33 North Stone Avenue, 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701-1207

RE: Agenda item no. 66. Comprehensive Plan Amendment and support for Goal 3.A.1., Policy a) 5)

Dear Chair Scott and Members of the Board,

The Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection supports the draft update to *Pima Prospers* and staff's work on the plan — in particular, Chapter 3. Natural, Physical, and Cultural Environment.

The *Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan* remains one of the most forward-thinking local conservation frameworks in the country. We are proud to have played a foundational role in its development and ongoing implementation. With our input on *Pima Prospers 2025*, we sought to uphold Pima County's strong conservation record.

Specifically, we appreciate staff's integration of language that reinforces the goals of the SDCP, including this addition under Goal 3.A.1., Policy a) 5):

"To encourage the preservation of natural open space in those areas subject to the CLS where development is occurring, the CLS has a holistic, landscape-level target that at least 70% of all lands set aside as mitigation across all designations should occur on-site."

This policy reflects an ongoing commitment to conserving high-value natural undisturbed open spaces within the same areas most affected by development. It continues Pima County's record of achieving roughly 73% on-site mitigation to date.

As the SDCP approaches its 25th anniversary, *Pima Prospers 2025* reaffirms Pima County's leadership in conservation-based planning. Thank you for your support of this draft update and our input into it.

Sincerely,

Kate Hotten, Co-Executive Director

DOCT 09:25AM 100 PCD CLK OF BD

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