



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: 11/7/2023

*= Mandatory, information must be provided

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A".

OCT 05 09:23 AM 150 PC CLK OF BD

***Title:**

Pima County Cooperative Extension Annual Report

***Introduction/Background:**

The University of Arizona Pima County Cooperative Extension (PCCE) offers educational programming on natural resources, 4-H youth development, and health and nutrition to the citizens of Pima County. This presentation will highlight the past year’s achievements across all programs, including those directly funded by Pima County. The University of Arizona is a federally designated land grant university, and as such, works through county-level Cooperative Extension offices and a statewide network of knowledgeable faculty and staff to provide lifelong educational programs for all Arizonans. Throughout the state, county governments provide office accommodations and financial support for operations and programming to their County Extension offices. Per state statute, the County Board of Supervisors appoints the County Extension Advisory board and receives an annual report from the office. In FY23 and FY24, Pima County provided \$151,400 to Pima County Cooperative Extension through a budgeted appropriations agreement between Pima County and the University of Arizona.

***Discussion:**

In 2022, University of Arizona Pima County Cooperative Extension reached over 36,000 adults and youth with over 100,000 hours of programming. Focusing on horticulture, sustainable landscapes, youth development, nutrition, and parenting, each program reaches a different sector of our community to bring them education and tools they can use to help make their lives better. This presentation will describe the distribution of Pima Extension program impact in County Districts in addition to highlighting program successes and FY24 goals.

Last year, our 180 Master Gardeners invested nearly 25,000 hours of volunteer service to help people create healthy outdoor spaces, enhance biodiversity and strengthen their knowledge and appreciation for growing plants in our desert ecosystem. The County-supported Invasive Species program reaches out to citizens through libraries, homeowner associations, and removal events to assist Pima County with buffelgrass and other invasive threats. In 2022, Pima Extension supported 29 4-H clubs, several in each County District, to deliver 27,000 hours of education focusing on animal husbandry, STEM, youth leadership and, new this year, ranch education. 4-H Tucson Village Farm (TVF) engaged over 6,500 youth ages 2 to 22 in seed to table education, including farming, culinary, nutrition, and outdoor education. Each year, thousands of youths from across Pima County gain hands-on understanding about where food comes from and why vegetables are so important for health on a school field trip to TVF. Health education for resource-limited residents is a primary focus for PCCE. Federal programs for SNAP-Education and EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program) collaborate with partners to expand food access and to reach more people with physical and nutritional education. Our Family Engagement Program (FEP) teaches people about child development, the root causes of child misbehavior and how to build strong lifelong relationships. FEP’s collaboration with the Arizona State Prison Complex reduces recidivism by helping incarcerated individuals improve family relationships.

***Conclusion:**

Pima County Cooperative Extension programs provide education and engagement to help people throughout Pima County improve their lives. Whether working on health and nutrition, horticulture, or youth development, Pima Extension programs provide direct education as well as strategic planning and community collaborations to help Pima

County residents and systems become more resilient in the face of future challenges. The support from Pima County government is crucial to that mission and is much appreciated.

***Recommendation:**

Continued support by Pima County for University of Arizona Pima County Cooperative Extension programs and operations. Due to inflation and cost of living adjustments, incremental increases in support are needed to maintain program deliverables and impacts going forward.

***Fiscal Impact:**


Discussions are underway to evaluate funding levels in relationship to program elements outlined in the associated Scope of Work with Pima County Natural Resources Parks and Recreation.


***Board of Supervisor District:**


1 2 3 4 5 All

Department: Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation Telephone: 724-5000

Contact: Robert Padilla Telephone: 724-5235

Department Director Signature:  Date: 10/03/2023

Deputy County Administrator Signature:  Date: 10/5/2023

County Administrator Signature:  Date: 10/3/23