



MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 12, 2015

TO: Robin Brigode, Clerk of the Board

FROM: Ramón Valadez, County Supervisor, District 2

SUBJECT: Board of Supervisors Agenda Addendum Item – District 2

Place the following on the Board of Supervisor's Agenda Addendum for the meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2015.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Resolution of the Pima County Board of Supervisors supporting the request of the Garden Kitchen to Pascua Yaqui Tribe for a portion of its annual contribution to its cities, towns and counties.

(District 2, Action)

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RESOLUTION NO. 2015 - _____

RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUPPORTING THE
REQUEST OF THE GARDEN KITCHEN TO THE PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE FOR A
PORTION OF ITS ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO CITIES, TOWN AND COUNTIES

The Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona finds:

1. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is required by State law to contribute twelve percent (12%) of its total annual gaming revenue to cities, towns or counties for government services that benefit the general public for such things as public safety and promotion of commerce and economic development.
2. The Garden Kitchen is a collaborative effort between Pima County, the City of South Tucson, and the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. It is located in Pima County and leased to Pima County Cooperative Extension. The mission of the Garden Kitchen is to build capacity of program participants to live healthier lives by providing them with hands-on nutrition education through gardening and cooking classes. Understanding how to grow, buy, properly store, and cook nutritious, low cost meals leads to the prevention of diet-related diseases.
3. Health disparities impact residents of low-income neighborhoods at a greater prevalence than more affluent neighborhoods. Research has shown that one's ZIP Code may be a better predictor of health outcomes than genetics. Geographic location is often a surrogate for other issues including access to health resources, affordable housing, and opportunities for well-paying jobs, transportation, and even availability of fresh fruits and vegetables. Bringing health resources to geographic areas with limited resources helps alter the negative trajectory that environmental factors may have on the health of residents. The Garden Kitchen is such a resource.

4. The Pima County Cooperative Extension nutrition education program, which includes the Garden Kitchen, is directed primarily to families with limited resources. The population of South Tucson and the surrounding area will benefit greatly from health promotion programs at the Garden Kitchen. Currently, 33% of residents in Pima County are low income, with 180,000 receiving SNAP benefits. An even higher 53% of the citizens of South Tucson are at or below the poverty line. Financially disadvantaged populations are more likely to live in communities that have limited health resources. As a result, communities such as South Tucson and the surrounding neighborhoods are at risk for high rates of preventable, diet-related diseases like diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease. South Tucson has higher rates of Hispanic and Native American community members than the rest of Pima County. These ethnic groups are at greater risk of preventable diet-related diseases. The Garden Kitchen project was established in this geographic area to address the nutrition and physical activity needs of people living there.

5. The Garden Kitchen program will use the Pascua Yaqui Revenue Sharing funds to install five kitchenettes in the teaching area of the Garden Kitchen. These studio-sized kitchens will allow participants to experience home meal preparation with the added benefit of nutrition educators guiding them through the entire process. Nutrition educators will first demonstrate preparing a healthy meal then participants will reproduce the meal at the kitchenettes. The advantage of kitchenettes is that every participant will have the opportunity to complete a nutritious meal, from start to finish, in a setting similar to their home kitchen. This increases the confidence and skills to create healthy meals for their families on a regular basis and provides families with a fun bonding experience.

6. The Garden Kitchen already possesses all of the necessary equipment to build five kitchenettes. The Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) grant funded the purchase of stoves, refrigerators, microwaves, dishwashers, cabinetry, sinks, under-cabinet lighting and countertops for the Garden Kitchen, but those funds could not be used to install the materials.

7. Program participants will increase knowledge of good nutrition, healthy meal preparation, and food safety skills. Program participants will report changes in eating behaviors such as increased vegetable consumption and eating more meals together as a family, and decreased sugar and sodium consumption.
8. Traditionally nutrition education programming is delivered in non-family settings. Typically classes are held for adults (80-90% of participants are mothers) and separately for children (nutrition classes in a school setting). One primary indicator of success for this program is getting families to attend classes together and to work collaboratively on meal preparation. Additionally, another indicator of success is families reporting more meal time together and the preparation and consumption of healthier foods.
9. This funding will enable the Garden Kitchen to be fully functional as a teaching facility. Currently we use makeshift materials and strategies to deliver programming, but we are limited in what we are able to teach, which limits the participants' learning experience because the equipment is not available for use. Often we can only offer a cooking demonstration, which does not include the critical hands-on experience needed to truly understand how to prepare the meal.
10. The standard installation of these five kitchenettes will cost a total of \$75,410 and will provide a clear and definite public benefit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors supports The Garden Kitchen's submittal of the accompanying Pascua Yaqui Tribe Revenue Sharing Application requesting funding from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe's annual twelve percent (12%) local revenue-sharing contribution.

PASSED and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2015

Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Deputy County Attorney