



MEMORANDUM

Date: February 11, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Lesher 
Acting County Administrator

Re: **Additional Information Regarding the Grant Application for the Clay Target Center at the Southeast Regional Park**

On January 18, 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 2022-3 authorizing submittal of a grant application for the referenced County facility. The purpose of the application is to seek funding from the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) to cover 50 percent of the cost to install two host camper pads at the Clay Target Center (CTC) at the Southeast Regional Park (SERP). During the Board meeting, Supervisor Grijalva inquired about the reason for these improvements.

Since opening in 2005, the SERP Clay Target Center and the Rifle and Pistol Range have experienced break-ins, intrusions, and thefts on a regular basis, including trespass for the purpose of unauthorized off-hours wildcat shooting. These activities have resulted in property loss and damage such as cutting fences, breaking locks, and digging into berms (for lead mining), which create hazards for the public and staff and disrupt the operation of the facilities. The most recent theft at the CTC in April 2021 totaled \$1,598 in equipment, not including damage to the facility (Attachment). There have been similar intrusions at the SERP Rifle and Pistol Range across the street that have also resulted in damage to the facility and losses of equipment.

Based on the history of occurrences, Board approval was sought for submittal of the AGFD Shooting Range Development Grant application to install two camp host pads at the SERP Clay Target Center. If the grant is awarded, Natural Resources Parks and Recreation (NRPR) will construct the camp pads and provide them at no charge to individuals that act as caretakers in exchange for prescribed facility maintenance work. Additionally, the caretaker will provide an on-site presence to assist the public, communicate real-time information to NRPR staff, deter intrusions and theft, and contact the proper authorities in the event of an emergency.

NRPR has successfully utilized the camp host concept at the Gilbert Ray Campground in Tucson Mountain Park and at Canoa Ranch.

JKL

Attachment

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Yves Khawam, PhD, Assistant County Administrator for Public Works
Robert Padilla, Deputy Director, Natural Resources Parks and Recreation

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