

RESOLUTION NO. 2021- _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AFFIRMING SUPPORT OF JURISDICTIONAL RATE PARITY FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

WHEREAS, Pima County and City of Tucson entered into an Agreement in 1979 turning over regional sewer resources to the County and regional water resources to the City, and

WHEREAS, the City of Tucson at that time functioned as the de facto regional water provider, with services extending significantly beyond City limits north to Catalina and south to Diamond Bell Ranch and Corona de Tucson, and

WHEREAS, all property owners in unincorporated Pima County pay equivalent Central Arizona Project tax as City of Tucson property owners, thereby not only disproportionately subsidizing renewable water for Tucson Water customers, but also some property owners are deprived of receiving Central Arizona Project water due to arbitrary City of Tucson Water service boundaries and

WHEREAS, the City of Tucson is the only regional water utility with recharge and recovery infrastructure requisite for sustainable aquifer hydrological continuity, and

WHEREAS, the City of Tucson is the only regional water utility with a reclaimed water delivery system serving customers in Tucson, Marana, Oro Valley and unincorporated Pima County, and

WHEREAS, Pima County provides the City of Tucson reclaimed water at no cost, valued at \$86.2 million in 2019, to support regional water service delivery, and

WHEREAS, the City of Tucson adopted a Water Service Area Policy, which established a water service boundary for Tucson Water in 2010, which excluded unincorporated property owners from receiving Central Arizona Project water and

WHEREAS, the City of Tucson is considering additional fees for Tucson Water customers residing in unincorporated Pima County, and

WHEREAS, initiating water service initially as a regional water provider and then subsequently reducing water service boundaries and arbitrarily raising rates for unincorporated residents without cost-basis creates inequity to ratepayers lacking political representation through either the City of Tucson Mayor and Council or the Arizona Corporation Commission.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona, that:

1. Pima County opposes differential water rate fees for Tucson Water customers residing in unincorporated Pima County, and
2. Recommends the City of Tucson Mayor and Council consider providing regional water service to all of Pima County not served by another water utility as originally envisioned.

Passed by the Board of Supervisors of Pima County, this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Chair, Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Clerk of the Board



Deputy County Attorney