

TO: Julie Castaneda

FROM: Rex Scott

RE: Joint Meetings with Tucson Mayor and City Council

DATED: April 20, 2021

Please place the following item on the Board of Supervisors meeting agenda for May 4, 2021:

**Discussion and possible action regarding the scheduling of quarterly meetings with the Tucson Mayor and City Council. The next meeting would be set for later in May or early in June. Issues related to water policy and its use would be the focus of this meeting.**

I ask my colleagues and our counterparts with the City of Tucson to commit to quarterly joint meetings, with the next one to be scheduled later in May, or early next month.

Given the recent actions of both governmental bodies regarding the possibility of Tucson Water customers in unincorporated Pima County being charged differential water rates, our next joint meeting should focus on water policy and use. Some suggested topics of discussion are:

- Differential water rates
- Tucson Water service area policies
- Effluent credits
- Current areas of cooperation
- Responses to climate change
- Ground and surface water conservation
- Financial assistance to certain sewer or water ratepayers

It is likely that by having each elected body share its concerns and positions, that both mutual understanding and public knowledge will be enhanced. More significantly, action could be taken to direct our staffs to work in tandem to develop proposals or policies that will benefit all our citizens. These conversations and the subsequent work may be difficult, but we owe it to the public to engage in both constructive dialogue and collaborative efforts.

At the same meeting, a tentative schedule for quarterly meetings can be developed and agreed on. Possible topics for future meetings could also be discussed.