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Pima County Board of Supervisors

MEMORANDUM

To: Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board

From: Matt Heinz, Supervisor, District 2

Date: May 13, 2021

RE: Board Meeting 5/18/21 – FY22 Funding for Home Sharing Pilot, Pima County

Please add the following item to the Board Agenda for 5/18/21.

FY22 Funding for Home Sharing Pilot, Pima County:

Discussion/Action: A measure directing the County Administrator and County staff to include \$200,000 in the Final FY22 Pima County Budget to fund the Year 1 pilot of a Home Sharing Program in Pima County, administered by Pima Council on Aging (PCOA). See enclosed proposal from PCOA and Home Sharing Feasibility Study conducted by Chess & Associates in partnership with Poster Mirto McDonald.

Pima County is experiencing a significant affordable housing crisis, with older adults greatly affected. As noted in PCOA's proposal, "Home Sharing has emerged as a relatively low-cost and immediate way to create sustainable long-term housing options for older adults."

While this program would serve a small number of older adults in our community in its first year, the model is one worth pursuing and growing over time. It presents a three-pronged solution to part of the affordable housing crisis, in addition to creating a model for more sustainable communities. With Home Sharing, (1) older adults who may not otherwise be able to age in place can do so, safely and with dignity; (2) young people early in their careers can significantly save on housing costs while building their savings for eventual home ownership, or other older adults can significantly reduce their living expenses to ensure a more secure retirement; and (3) units that were being rented by folks who transition to Home Sharing now become available to others.

Note that such funding would be separate and apart from PCOA's current outside agency funding from Pima County, which leverages millions in federal matching dollars for programs and services for Pima County's elderly communities.