

# ADDENDUM MATERIAL

DATE 10-5-21 ITEM NO. A227

Danielle Greene

From: Barbara Mayer [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 3:45 PM  
To: COB\_mail  
Subject: Access to Bravo Leon Cemetery

To Whom It May Concern,

It is critical that a decision be made as soon as possible to give permanent access to Bravo Leon Cemetery

Leon Ranch Rd has been in existence for over 100 years. I was shocked to learn of the counties lack of attention to this issue prior to allowing the builders to cut off access to the 100 + year old cemetery. If not for the residents in the area many of us Vail pioneer descendants would not even have access to the cemetery. Even tho the alternative road has been very dangerous, we were grateful to have some type of access.

Dia de los Muertos is a sacred and celebrated day to Mexican Americans, a day to honor our family members who have passed. It is a tradition older than the cemetery, we gather to pray, clean up, lay flowers and mementos, listen to music and visit with other families Dia de los Muertos is in FOUR WEEKS !!!!

Because of the recent much needed heavy rains, several of the families, including mine, have TRIED to access the cemetery to begin the clean up but on several occasions have not been able to use the road.

It is a shame that we are in this position to hope and pray that all families with loved ones at Bravo Leon Cemetery have a safe passage on such an important day to honor their loved ones. I am urging you to do the right thing. Be respectful to our Mexican tradition. Give us back our road. !!!

Barbara Mayer 4th generation descendant to Guadalupe and Francisco Estrada  
(Bravo Leon Cemetery)

Also on behalf of :

Evelyn Gasper 4th generation descendant to Guadalupe and Francisco Estrada  
(Bravo Leon Cemetery)

Alfred Mayer 4th generation descendant to Guadalupe and Francisco Estrada  
(Bravo Leon Cemetery)

Marcella Figueroa Guttierrez 3rd generation descendant to Guadalupe and Francisco Estrada,  
and Francisco and Gregoria Figueroa ( Bravo Leon Cemetery)

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Ray Figueroa 3rd generation descendant to Guadalupe and Francisco Estrada, and Francisco and Gregoria Figueroa ( Bravo Leon Cemetery)

Joe Figueroa 3rd generation descendant to Guadalupe and Francisco Estrada, and Francisco and Gregoria Figueroa ( Bravo Leon Cemetery)

**Danielle Greene**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 4, 2021 3:55 PM  
**To:** COB\_mail  
**Subject:** Access to Bravo Leon Cemetery

[REDACTED]

To Whom it concerns,  
Thank you for taking time regarding this very important issue.  
It is good to see Pima County acknowledging this historical road. This is an important part of Vail's History and especially our Hispanic Ancestors that are a very big part of our history here.  
Many of the families that lived here and used Leon Ranch Road are now buried at The Bravo Leon Cemetery. Many of the families that visit their loved ones and maintain this cemetery have not felt safe driving the rough and steep Vail Ranch Road, or trail as some call it due to how narrow it is. It is a treacherous one lane road.  
Celebrations are held to celebrate the dead once a year, a Hispanic Celebration.  
Leon Ranch Road has been used for well over a 100 years and still is by local residents in the area. It is needed as the only safe route we all have here on Leon Ranch Road.  
School buses for special needs students, garbage and delivery services struggle and cause damage to Vail Ranch Hill making it extremely difficult for some of us to travel on.  
Some of us haul livestock and we cant get up the hill.  
A truck and trailer were stuck almost jackknifed blocking the hill for well over an hour until it could be pulled out.  
Emergency help would not have been able to get to us.

**"Lost in all the noise of today, are stories, history and lives that could be forever altered or even lost forever by political decisions being made today." quoted from Leslie Souza**

We hope that the folks representing Pima County and Our Vail area among all others will begin to acknowledge its rich History and work harder on preserving it. Become part of a historical moment that we can look back on and note with pride. That our elected officials and those making decisions for all of us consider not only who you represent but the land and all it holds for all of us. Our past should always be remembered and never covered over by the present or the future.  
We all thank you for your consideration on saving an important part of Vail's History.

Marilyn Dailey  
6th Generation Arizonian  
Vail Rancher's Daughter

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10/04/21 03:55 PM COB\_MAIL

**Danielle Greene**

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**From:** Sarah M Hiteman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 4, 2021 4:02 PM  
**To:** cob-MAIL@pima.gov; COB\_mail  
**Subject:** Re: OCT 5TH AGENDA ITEM LEON RANCH RD

On Mon, Oct 4, 2021 at 3:58 PM Sarah M Hiteman [REDACTED] wrote:

October 4, 2021

Pima County Board

I am Sarah Mayer Hiteman, I am a retired administrator from the U of A College of Medicine. I am also a 4th generation Vail Pioneer Descendant of Francisco & Guadalupe Estrada who are both buried at the Bravo-Leon Cemetery along with other family relatives. I am speaking on behalf of my family and other Vail Pioneer descendants who have family buried at this cemetery.

The cemetery has a vast rich history and stories of the pioneers who came to the Arizona Territory from Mexico by wagon and homesteaded in the Vail area. I am grateful that the letters from the Pioneer family descendants about safe road access to the cemetery and our voices have been heard by Administrator Huckleberry. We are thankful for your leadership and directing various county departments to find a solution for a safe road to the cemetery.

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Pioneer families support the option being proposed and we urge the board to approve the \$233,000 from the general fund for the extensive necessary work and maintenance of the 100-year-old Leon Ranch Road.

It is important that the Board is fully aware that this is still an active very traditional cemetery. It is the responsibility of family and friends to bury and maintain burial sites at this cemetery. There have been three burials this year in February, July and most recently last Friday, October 1, 2021. El Dia de los Muertos is a long-standing annual traditional event that takes place at the cemetery. Therefore, having safe access to the cemetery for families and mortuary hearses is very important and necessary.

I would be remiss if I did not let this board know that only through the dedication of business owner and resident Marilyn Dailey, Vail Pioneer descendants and residents Sonny and Art Leon, and other residents for their efforts keeping the Leon Ranch Rd and the alternate one lane Vail Ranch Rd open. This has been done on their own time and personal expense so they would not be landlocked by flooding and road damage caused by American Richmond Homes and Pepper Viner heavy construction vehicles. Without this effort by the residents, travel to the Leon cemetery would have been virtually impossible.

Finally, this is a true opportunity for Pima County to use as a case study, taking advantage of lessons learned, overhaul the approval process and policies of new development project plans; more importantly, recognize and protect the small neighborhoods accessible roadways.

Sincerely,

Sarah Hiteman

