



MEMORANDUM

Date: February 12, 2026

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

From: Jan Lester 
 County Administrator

Re: **One Pima Progress Report**

On November 18, 2025, the Board of Supervisors adopted the [One Pima Initiative](#), a two-year plan that identified five (5) priorities for County programming and partnerships that strengthen public safety, expand treatment and recovery services, stabilize housing, protect public health, and improve conditions along the Chuck Huckelberry Loop. This Memorandum provides the first of two progress reports on activities and directives under the initiative and supplements the presentation scheduled for the February 17, 2026 Board of Supervisors meeting.

February 2026 Progress Report

Priority Area No. 1: Loop Safety and Cleanup

Department(s): Regional Flood Control, Parks & Recreation

One Pima Priority Area No. 1 focuses on restoration of cleanliness and safety along the Chuck Huckelberry Loop by removing encampments, debris and addresses areas of improvement including signage, mile markers, and digital apps for reporting maintenance and safety concerns. Key County departments that are central to activities supporting this priority are the Regional Flood Control District and Parks & Recreation.

Regional Flood Control District (RFCD) commenced enhanced maintenance cleanup activities in the washes and waterways throughout the county, prominently areas in the Rillito and the Santa Cruz wash in December 2025. Maintenance operations extend along The Loop in adjoining washes. RFCD coordinates with vendor to schedule remediation of on-Loop waterways after encampment areas have been vacated.

Table 1: Operational Metrics & Total Costs to Date

	December	January	Totals
Number of Jobs	12	15	27
Tons of Debris Removed	37.07	17.75	54.82
Costs	\$37,298.29	\$52,095.20	\$89,393.49

Since December 2025, the contracted vendor has completed a total of 27 jobs, removing a total of 54.82 tons of debris, totaling \$89,393.49.

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The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **One Pima Progress Report**
February 12, 2026
Page 2

Current improvements under consideration include evaluation of digital data tools with public facing applications for reporting and maintenance response, as well as enhanced wayfinding features. Windsocks are being evaluated as temporary site markers for special events along the Loop, since durability and theft concerns would limit their usefulness as permanent installations. Other more permanent solutions include bridge artwork highlighting species covered in the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan (SDCP), which aligns with One Pima as well as the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the SDCP.

Staff are finalizing a community feedback survey on the uses and valued features of The Loop, as well as perceived areas of needed improvement. Staff anticipate launching the survey on February 26. Results will compliment previous community feedback solicited by the Parks & Recreation department when developing their Parks' Master Plan with a narrower scope that will inform the development of strategies to improve conditions as well as the overall experience for those who use The Loop.

Priority Area No. 2: Public Health and Treatment Access

Department(s): Health, Detainee and Crisis Systems (DaCS)

One Pima Priority Area No. 2 focuses on expanded overdose prevention and behavioral health programs, ensuring treatment continuity for individuals leaving custody, maintaining cooling centers, and advocacy at the state level for extended coverage for those in recovery programs. County departments with primary responsibility to lead implementation of activities associated with this priority area are Health Department and Detainee and Crisis Systems (DaCS).

The Pima County Health Department leads ongoing mental health and addiction prevention work. The Community Mental Health and Addiction (CMHA) team actively partners across the community in public health and substance use treatment outreach, stigma reduction programs, and connection with priority populations such as, but not limited to youth, unhoused, and justice-involved populations. CMHA also provides critical resources directly to members of the community, such as opioid antagonist medication, test strips, and works to enhance the access to care network through peer navigation and support. PCHD partners closely with community-based organizations, medical providers, jurisdictions, and other County departments such as DaCS and Pima County Justice Services.

As detailed in the [One Arizona Opioid Settlement Agreement](#), local health departments oversee the distribution of Opioid Settlement funds. Regions can choose to pool their distribution of funds or retain them in their respective jurisdictions. [In Pima County, the pooled settlement funds are overseen by the Regional Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee \(ROSAC\)](#), which meets bimonthly. This oversight committee represents deep expertise that advises on the use of settlement funds, priority areas and populations. At the January 6, 2026, meeting, the Board approved Requests for Proposals (RFP) in settlement funds to community organizations for work with our priority populations. Opioid settlement dollars have also been directed to Medication

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **One Pima Progress Report**
February 12, 2026
Page 3

Assisted Treatment (MAT) services at Pima County Adult Detention Complex (PCADC), continued engagement with priority populations such as youth organizations, justice-involved treatment coordination, and peer-based service coordination.

DaCS oversees the contracted medical service provision at PCADC, including the provision of MAT services, enhanced discharge and jail-release planning, alongside the [Inmate Navigation, Enrollment, Support and Treatment \(INVEST\)](#) and Freedom Management programming – which serve eligible populations that have co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders and high criminogenic risk. Similarly, DaCS manages the contracts for Court Ordered Evaluation (COE) and crisis stabilization as mandated by Title 36, Chapter 5 of the Arizona Revised Statutes. While mandated, the department has strong partnerships across the community healthcare stakeholders such as, but not limited to hospital providers, crisis care, health plans, and community health homes.

In alignment with the tenets of One Pima, the Crisis Response Center (CRC), the Behavioral Health Pavilion (BHP), and portions of the Banner-University Medical Center – South Campus represents an ecosystem of healthcare provisions – a true no-wrong door approach to medical, crisis and behavioral health care. These facilities are assets to the community and provide a unique and pioneered approach to connected facilities that ensure continuous patient access to care, 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

In 2024 and 2025, the Cooling Center Network served tens of thousands of people across the community. Summer 2026 will be the third year of formal cooling center coordination across the region. Facilitated under the Health Department, the Cooling Center Network cooling centers include libraries, shelters, community centers, City of Tucson Ward offices and partnerships between public health, local jurisdictions, non-governmental organizations, shelters and faith-based organizations. Community planning for the 2026 heat season is underway, including securing cooling center locations through area-partnerships, using heat vulnerability data from previous summers to ensure locations are accessible for particularly vulnerable individuals and families, and heat pre-season planning and community engagement has started.

As aligned with [current Board adopted priorities for the 2026 legislative session as adopted at the July 15, 2025 meeting](#), staff have engaged with County lobbyist to explore further opportunities in current or future legislative sessions for policy recommendations aligned with expanded access to treatment for those enrolled in the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS).

Priority Area No. 3: Treatment and Diversion Programs
Department(s): Health, Justice Services, Pima County Attorney

One Pima Priority Area No. 3 focuses on increasing treatment and diversion capacity at the [Transition Center](#), enhancing alternatives to incarceration and launching the Sobering

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **One Pima Progress Report**
February 12, 2026
Page 4

Alternative for Recovery (SAFR) Center pilot program. Departments leading activities in this priority area are Health, Justice Services, and the Pima County Attorney's Office.

The SAFR Center pilot launched January 1, 2026. The pilot is designed as a 7-day, 24-hour facility to provide immediate access to a voluntary, low-barrier, therapeutic treatment environment for adult individuals experiencing acute intoxication. Since its inception, the County Health Department, Community Bridges Inc., and the City of Tucson have worked together to strengthen referral pathways and operational coordination. These efforts aim to accelerate enrollment and address individuals experiencing acute intoxication in encampments, as well as those contacted during Loop safety operations facilitated by Tucson Police Department in partnership with the County Transition Center.

Included in the Board's action on January 6, were two (2) Memoranda of Understanding with the County's Department of Justice Services for expanded hours of operation and coordination with the Tucson Police Department. Presently, the department is planning to commence recruitment for additional personnel to align with these enhanced programs and is working through the staffing process to create positions and begin recruitment of personnel to support Transition Center expansion to 7-days a week.

Discussions are ongoing with the Pima County Attorney's Office, Pretrial Services and Public Defense leadership on opportunities to enhance the Drug Treatment Alternative to Prison (DTAP) program and the Supportive Treatment and Engagement Programs with Services (STEPS). These programs improve outcomes associated with increased acceptance and completion of support programs by individuals in the program This includes evaluating, adding or reassigning existing staff. Additionally, there are preliminary discussions on referring STEPs program participants to the SAFR Center for treatment support.

Priority Area No. 4: Housing Stability and Homelessness Prevention

Department(s): Community & Workforce Development, Office of Housing Opportunities & Homeless Solutions

One Pima Priority Area No. 4 focuses on continued investment in affordable housing development, expanding supportive housing partnerships, creating a regional shelter dashboard, and addressing shelter barriers such as pet accommodation and personal storage. Leading activities within this priority area are Community & Workforce Development and the Office of Housing Opportunities & Homeless Solutions (OHOHS).

On September 2, 2025, the Board approved the distribution of the \$8.5M in FY2026 Affordable Housing Funds as recommended by Community & Workforce Development, of which \$5M was designated for gap funding awards for affordable housing development and preservation. On February 17, CWD will present the staff recommendations as endorsed by the Regional Affordable Housing Commission for funding awards. If approved, awards will support nine projects delivering more than over 400 affordable housing units, including homeownership, multifamily housing, and transitional housing development. Additionally,

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **One Pima Progress Report**
February 12, 2026
Page 5

CWD will be bringing for Board consideration and approval the Regional Ten-Year Housing Strategy and Funding Plan which will align with the [Board Policy D 22.17 "Closing the Gap in Affordable Housing, Tackling Housing Insecurity, and Preventing an Escalation of Homelessness"](#). The strategy is informed by the completion of a [comprehensive housing needs assessment](#), multiple meetings with regional partners, community outreach events, as well as review and input from the members of the Pima County Regional Affordable Housing Commission.

County IT's Geographic Information System (GIS) is developing a community shelter dashboard supported by the OHOHS and in partnership with Tucson Pima Coalition to end Homelessness (TPCH) and the University of Arizona's Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW). This dashboard will provide public information on shelter locations, bed availability, household types served, pet policies, and contact details. Staff are collecting and confirming program information for each shelter.

Additionally, the OHOHS continues to engage in dialogue with shelter providers to address operational challenges in low-barrier shelters, emphasizing preventative strategies and clear standards for staffing and support. This includes overall analysis on the approaches and evolving operational considerations for shelter spaces that could encourage more acceptance / utilization. This includes evaluation of the existing partnerships with Pima Animal Care Center and the Health Department's Healthy Companion Clinics that continue to collaborate with community agencies and shelters programs to further promote humane care and best practices for individuals and their pets.

Priority Area No. 5: Neighborhood and Small Business Support

Department(s): Community & Workforce Development, Economic Development

Priority Area No. 5 focuses on the development of a reinvestment strategy for the Silverlake-Mission neighborhood, and the study of a Small Business Safety & Recovery pilot program to offset safety-related expenses for local small businesses. Departments supporting activities associated with this priority area are CWD and Economic Development.

Within the Ten-Year Housing Strategy and Funding Plan going before the Board in March is a series of recommendations for County and regional partners to address housing needs. Included in the proposed recommendations will be to approve previously identified areas as Community Revitalization Areas (CRAs), which will improve competitiveness for federal tax credit programs and support community infrastructure such as roads and parks, as well as the recommendation to explore identifying additional areas as future CRA designations. If approved by the Board, staff will begin evaluating Silverlake-Mission for recommendation as an additional CRA.

In terms of direct resource and programming support, staff are in ongoing dialogue on opportunities to enhance resource access and support for neighborhoods in and around the Silverlake-Mission area. On March 28, Community & Workforce Development will co-host a

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **One Pima Progress Report**
February 12, 2026
Page 6

community resource event with Supervisor Cano and the District 5 office. Future events may include Justice Services, Health and Pima County programming and community partners. An update on the development of a small business support program will be provided in the April 2026 progress report.

Administration and Transparency

County Administration and staff continue to engage with jurisdictional partners on collaborative opportunities, many of which are aligned with One Pima priorities. Engagement includes ongoing participation in the City of Tucson's Safe City Implementation and Task Force discussions, as well as outreach to Marana and Oro Valley Police Departments for service coordination related to concerns with vegetation fires in high-risk wildfire areas, and response coordination in areas inhabited by individuals experiencing homelessness. More discussions will be forthcoming.

County Communications and Information Technology's Web Development team have launched the One Pima webpage, which will go live on February 17, 2026, and hosts virtual information cards on all five (5) of the priority areas that link to independent priority pages. Each page hosts a summary of scope / focus as well as the links and contact information for respective County department(s) overseeing the One Pima-aligned programs. The webpage will continue to evolve as more progress is made in the respective priority areas. This includes a page dedicated to One Pima metrics, including total tons of debris and costs associated with Loop cleanup, information on community engagement events, links to community surveys, and partners.

Next Steps

- Launch The Chuck Huckelberry Loop Community Feedback Survey on February 26
- Finalize Ten-Year Housing Strategy draft for Board review / approval in March
- Silverlake-Mission Community Resource Event on March 28

These and other developing action items will round out the second One Pima progress report scheduled for the Board's second meeting in April 2026.

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