



MEMORANDUM

Date: May 15, 2024

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

From: Jan Lester 
County Administrator

Re: **Titan Missile Museum Acquisition Update and Operating Agreement with the Arizona Aerospace Foundation**

The Titan Missile Museum is in Sahuarita, Arizona on approximately 10.01 acres located at 1580 West Duval Mine Road, Sahuarita, AZ 85614 (Assessor's Parcel Number: 303-33-024E). The site, also known as Missile Site 8, and all its improvements have been leased by Pima County from the United States Air Force ("USAF") since May 1, 1986.

Background

On November 15, 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 2022-68 authorizing the acquisition of the Titan Missile Museum land and improvements from the United States Air Force. The USAF had determined the property to be excess and the USAF and General Services Administration (GSA) agreed to dispose of the property on behalf of the USAF as a negotiated sale pursuant to 40 USC 545 (b) (8) (Undertaking). Over the past 18 months the GSA has worked through final approval of the sale with Pima County.

On April 15, 2024, GSA sent out escrow instructions that set the closing date for Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. No further action is needed by the Board of Supervisors to complete this transaction. Funds for the purchase were provided by a donor from the current County contracted Operator, the Arizona Aerospace Foundation. The Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation who has been operating the facility for the enjoyment of the public as a Pima County Attraction.

National Historic Landmark Designation and Operating Agreement

The site will remain listed in the National Register of Historic Places and continue to be designated a National Historic Landmark. Approximately 3.3 acres of the property will continue to be constrained by the historic covenants. There are 2,600 historic places in the United States that bear this national distinction.

The County proposes to continue the Museum operation and preservation of the Property through a continued Operating Agreement with the current Operator, Arizona Aerospace Foundation, the sole operator since its inception on May 1, 1986. The Operating Agreement is scheduled for Board of Supervisors consideration at the May 21, 2024, Board of Supervisors Meeting. If approved, the Arizona Aerospace Foundation will continue to operate the Titan

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Missile Museum as a Pima County Attraction and will continue to be responsible for all repairs and maintenance at the site.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve the Operating Agreement with the Arizona Aerospace Foundation for the continued operation of the County-owned property as the Titan Missile Museum.

JKL/anc

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Diane Frisch, Director, Attractions and Tourism
Ellen Moulton, Director, Finance and Risk Management Department
Terri Spencer, Director, Procurement Department
Jeff Teplitsky, Director, Real Property Services
Ian Milliken, Program Manager, Cultural Resources