



PIMA COUNTY
ANDRÉS CANO
DISTRICT 5 SUPERVISOR

MEMORANDUM

March 23, 2026

To: Melissa Manriquez
Clerk of the Board

From: Andrés Cano
District 5 Supervisor

AC

RE: Item for the April 7th Agenda

Please add the following to the April 7th agenda:

Proclamation:

International Dark Sky Week

Thank you.

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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the beauty of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind and the experience of viewing the stars inspires feelings of wonder and awe and encourages a growing interest in science and nature; and

WHEREAS, light pollution has proven economic and environmental consequences, resulting in significant impacts on the ecology and human health of all communities; and

WHEREAS, 80% of the world's population, including much of Pima County, lives under a dome of light pollution — excessive artificial lighting at night that disrupts natural darkness — and may never experience the visual wonder or ecological and health benefits of living under a dark sky; and

WHEREAS, Arizona hosts 10% of the world's largest telescopes: Whipple Observatory, the University of Arizona's MMT and Large Binocular Telescope Observatories, Kitt Peak National Observatory, and the Vatican Observatory; and

WHEREAS, optical astronomy and astrotourism — which are both endangered by unfettered light pollution — represent a statewide capital investment of more than \$1.3 billion and an annual economic return of more than \$250 million, and are related to more than 150,000 jobs in the aerospace and defense sector; and

WHEREAS, DarkSky International, headquartered in Tucson, is the world authority on light pollution and uses International Dark Sky Week to raise awareness of light pollution and encourage the protection of dark skies and use of responsible outdoor lighting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the week of April 13 through April 20, 2026, to be:

“INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK”

and asks each resident of Pima County to join in raising awareness and support for protecting our precious dark skies.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of April 2026.

The Honorable Jennifer Allen, Chair
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Melissa Manriquez, Clerk
Pima County Board of Supervisors