



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

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C. H. HUCKELBERRY
County Administrator

February 6, 2004

The Honorable Senator Jon Kyl
United States Senate
730 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Federal Funding Assistance Related to Homeland Security, Public Safety Communications Systems, and Land Acquisition to Prevent Urban Encroachment on Davis-Monthan Air Force Base as Recommended by the Arizona Military Regional Compatibility Project Joint Land Use Study

Dear Senator Kyl:

Through an extensive effort that began in the summer of 2003, a bond issue will be before the voters of Pima County in May of 2004 for a number of purposes. Two funding areas relate to federal issues. These are: 1) a significantly improved and interoperable police, fire and emergency communications system to facilitate homeland security and emergency response, and 2) land purchase to protect Davis-Monthan Air Force Base from development encroachment.

The Pima County Sheriff was able to obtain unanimous consensus among all police, fire and emergency service providers that such a system is our highest regional public safety priority and will be compatible with and integrate well with national Homeland Security goals. If the public safety bond question is approved by the voters, \$92 million in local funding will be made available for this purpose. This funding is not sufficient to completely develop a fully functional program. However, our bonds and local financing should more than match any federal grant to a state or local agency for this purpose. We need your help in assisting not only Pima County, but all of Southern Arizona, to develop an integrated, interoperable public safety communications system.

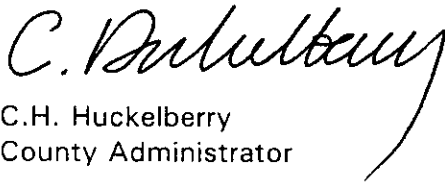
Protecting Davis-Monthan from future urban encroachment is also a very high priority of Pima County. The County fully supports the findings and recommendations of the Arizona Military Regional Compatibility Project Joint Land Use Study. The Study recommends that local funding be made available to acquire lands to prevent urban encroachment and to preserve and protect the southeast departure/approach corridor of the Base within the bond proposal. \$10 million has

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been made available to purchase lands for this purpose. We ask for your assistance in securing appropriate federal matching funds to double the purchasing power of this bond appropriation to further protect and enhance existing and future military missions of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

I am asking our federal lobbyists, Art Chapa and Michael Racy, to contact your office to discuss various legislative opportunities that may exist to advance these two most important issues.

Sincerely,



C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/jj

c: The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Martin Willett, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Art Chapa, Esq.
Michael Racy, Munger Chadwick, P.L.C.