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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: January 30, 2009

To: Chair and Members  
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee

From:  Nicole Fyffe  
Executive Assistant to the  
County Administrator

Re: **Recommendations for Public Outreach Concerning the Question of When to Hold a Bond Election**

At the December 12, 2008 Bond Advisory Committee meeting, the Committee discussed the pros and cons of holding a general obligation bond election in 2009. Individual committee members reported that they would reach out to certain organizations and individuals to try and get input on whether the County should hold a bond election in 2009. In addition, the Committee requested recommendations on how to gather input on this question from members of the public not yet involved in the planning process.

A draft survey is attached for the Committee's review. The survey provides background on the bond election process, and asks two questions: whether the County should hold a bond election in 2009, and if so, what types of projects are important to fund. We could request responses over a 2-week period so that the results could be tallied and reported to you at your next meeting.

I recommend that the Committee review the attached survey and direct staff to:

1. Place the survey in the Arizona Daily Star and Tucson Citizen newspapers over several days.
2. Set up a web based survey through our Pima County bond web site.
3. Email the link to the web based survey to homeowner and neighborhood associations, business groups, governmental agencies, and other organizations.
4. Email the link of the web based survey to Committee members so they can forward to their own contacts.

I would welcome any other recommendations you have for soliciting public input on a narrow question such as this in a short time period.

NF/dr

Attachment

c: C.H. Huckelberry, County Administrator

**Should Pima County Hold a Bond Election in November 2009?**

Pima County typically funds the construction of facilities and the purchase of land with revenue generated from the sale of general obligation (GO) and sewer revenue bonds. GO bonds are paid back with property taxes, and sewer revenue bonds with sewer user and connection fees. Types of projects funded this way include: parks and recreational facilities, community centers, libraries, public health clinics, museums, sheriff substations, court facilities, flood control improvements, affordable housing, neighborhood reinvestment projects, land purchased to conserve natural areas, and wastewater facility improvements. Voter approval is required for Pima County to sell bonds. The next opportunity for voter approval is election day on November 3, 2009.

According to a 2008 report from ASU's School of Business, investments in infrastructure by the State of Arizona and it's local governments have not kept up with the rest of the nation, even though Arizona is experiencing some of the highest rates of population growth, and therefore increasing demands for new and improved infrastructure. Pima County and it's cities, towns, and tribes have identified more than \$3.2 billion of project needs through this bond planning process. We would like to hear from you as to whether the County should hold a bond election in 2009 to fund the highest priority projects, and if so, what types of projects are most important to include.

The following completed survey can be mailed to the County Administrator's Office, Attn: Deseret Romero, 130 West Congress, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tucson Arizona 85701, by February 23, 2009.

Or you can go to [www.bonds.pima.gov](http://www.bonds.pima.gov), and complete the survey on-line. For more information please call 740-8450.

(1) If Pima County were to hold a bond election in 2009, please rank the following projects. 1 is not important to fund and 5 is very important to fund:

Affordable Housing	1	2	3	4	5
Courts and Law Enforcement Facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Cultural and Historic Preservation	1	2	3	4	5
Land and Water Conservation	1	2	3	4	5
Flood Control Improvements	1	2	3	4	5
Libraries	1	2	3	4	5
Landfills	1	2	3	4	5
Neighborhood Reinvestment	1	2	3	4	5
Parks and Recreational Facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Public Health Facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Tourism Facilities/Museums	1	2	3	4	5
Wastewater Reclamation Facilities	1	2	3	4	5

(2) In general, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all supportive, and 5 is highly supportive, how would you rank your level of support for Pima County holding a bond election in 2009?

Circle one of the following:

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Not at all supportive

Highly supportive

(3) Comments:

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