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MEDIA ADVISORY

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**BOARD VOTES UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT DRAFT OF THE
“SUSTAINABLE ACTION PLAN FOR COUNTY OPERATIONS”**

BOS Provided Inspiration and Direction for Plan Last May by Passing Resolution No. 2007-84

Pima County, Arizona – June 26, 2008-- Supervisor Bronson and Chairman Elias lead the Pima County Board of Supervisors as they voted unanimously to accept the draft of the “Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations” during their June 17th meeting. The plan is the result of a resolution the Board passed last May calling for a new operational and planning paradigm for Pima County that emphasizes sustainable practices throughout the county. The resolution established a far-reaching set of sustainability initiatives, many of which set specific goals for the way Pima County departments operate – like shifting half the fleet vehicles to more environmentally-friendly fuels by 2010; powering facilities with at least 15% renewable energy by 2025; and building all new County-funded facilities to meet the US Green Building Council’s LEED Silver Standards.

During the last several months, 46 employees throughout the county have been actively involved in preparing a draft plan that focuses on several different areas including: alternative fuel vehicles, waste reduction, green purchasing, land conservation and management, green building, renewable energy and energy conservation, and water conservation and management.

The draft plan accepted by the Board of Supervisors is now available on the county web site – www.pima.gov. The county is looking for public comment on the plan before a final version is adopted later this year.

Bronson said it was her pleasure to help move this important item at last week’s Board meeting. Bronson emphasized that implementing a good sustainability plan will pay off by reducing County expenses in the long run, increasing water and energy efficiency and energy independence, as well as improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Of the draft plan she said, “I’m excited that the county is moving in the right direction regarding sustainability. It’s not easy and it’s not cheap but, in the long run this is the right thing to do. I’m eager to hear from the community and look forward to implementing a comprehensive sustainability plan.”

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