

Land Conservation Programs and Property Highlights



Since 1974, and the purchase of what later became Catalina State Park, the voters of Pima County have been approving bond funds for the purchase of land for conservation. Although other funding sources have been used from time to time, general obligation bond funding approved by voters and paid back with property tax revenues, has been by far the largest source of funding. Not only have voters supported spending their tax dollars on land conservation, but they have done so at approval rates higher than for any other public need, with the exception of public safety.

These funds have been approved for four general purposes: open space and habitat conservation, cultural resource and historical preservation, floodprone land acquisition, and land acquisition to prevent urban encroachment on Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. This section focuses on properties purchased with voter approved bond funds from the 1997 and 2004 bond elections and provides an overview of the planning and implementation of the 5 distinct programs under

which these properties were purchased: 1997 Open Space Bond Program, the 2004 Conservation Acquisition Bond Program, the Historic Preservation Bond Program, the Floodprone Land Acquisition Program, and the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base Urban Encroachment Prevention Bond Program. In addition, highlights of the properties purchased under these programs are provided.

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