

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY  
ARIZONA ESTABLISHING THE PIMA COUNTY SPORTS AND TOURISM AUTHORITY**

**Whereas** Major League Baseball Spring Training has a 60-year history in Tucson, Arizona which began in 1947 with the Cleveland Indians playing in Hi-Corbett Field;

**Whereas** in 1993 the Colorado Rockies replaced the Cleveland Indians in Tucson playing in the Hi-Corbett field complex with an agreement through 2011;

**Whereas** in 1998 the Chicago White Sox and the Arizona Diamondbacks began to play during Spring Training in the new Tucson Electric Park with an agreement through 2012;

**Whereas** in 2007 an economic study of Arizona's Spring Training was completed by an independent firm on behalf of the Cactus League Baseball Association which reported that Spring Training in Pima County generates over \$30 million in direct expenditures from out-of-area visitors;

**Whereas** expanding opportunities for amateur youth sports are an important goal in Pima County and will be facilitated and enhanced by the continuing presence of Spring Training;

**Whereas** in 2007 the Chicago White Sox disclosed to Pima County that they would be relocating their Spring Training operations to Glendale, Arizona to a new \$82 million dollar stadium funded primarily by the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority which exclusively operates in and benefits Maricopa County;

**Whereas**, because of the funding of a new Glendale stadium by the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority, the future of Major League Baseball Spring Training in Pima County is in serious jeopardy; and

**Whereas**, Pima County desires to establish a sports and tourism authority pursuant to A.R.S. §11-701 in order to retain Major League Baseball Spring Training in Pima County and to enhance amateur youth sports in Pima County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, UPON MOTION DULY MADE, SECONDED AND CARRIED, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. **NAME.** The name of the proposed Authority shall be the "Pima County Sports and Tourism Authority".
2. **BOUNDARIES.** The boundaries of the proposed Authority shall be coterminous with the boundaries of Pima County.
3. **NECESSITY.** The public interest, convenience and necessity will be promoted by establishing the Authority. The Authority is necessitated by the relocation of the Chicago White Sox, and the desire to retain Major League Baseball Spring Training in Pima County and to further enhance amateur and youth sports in Pima County.

4. SPORTS FACILITIES AND SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED. The Authority shall be authorized to provide the following sports facilities and services:

A. Take all actions necessary to retain the Colorado Rockies and Arizona Diamondbacks as Major League Baseball Spring Training teams operating at Hi-Corbett Field and Tucson Electric Park;

B. Assist in obtaining a Major League Baseball team to replace the Chicago White Sox for Spring Training activities at the Tucson Electric Park sports facility;

C. Expand opportunities for professional baseball development in Pima County by attracting additional Major League Baseball teams for Spring Training and a minor league baseball team for its regular season;

D. Increase opportunities for amateur youth sports in Pima County, including the development of practice and tournament facilities for competitive soccer, baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball and other amateur youth sports;

E. Develop and promote amendments to Arizona law to create a sports and tourism authority for Pima County to perform functions and achieve benefits generally comparable to those afforded to Maricopa County by the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority established by A.R.S. Title 5, Chapter 8, and to other jurisdictions where a similar Sports and Tourism Authority exists, including without limitation developing appropriate mechanisms for annual and seasonal tourism taxes such as those imposed by the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority; and

F. Unlike the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority operating in Maricopa County, where approximately 6 percent of total revenues are dedicated to youth and amateur sports, not less than 25 percent of any authorized revenues of the Authority shall be dedicated to the advancement of opportunities in amateur and youth sports in Pima County.

5. HEARING DATE. A hearing on this resolution shall be held on the 1st day of April, 2008, at which time the Board of Supervisors shall meet and hear all persons who wish to appear in favor of or against establishing the Authority. Any prior sports authority previously established by the Board of Supervisors shall be terminated upon the creation of this Authority.


6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The Authority shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of fifteen members appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Eight members of the board shall have terms of two years and seven members shall have terms of four years. The board of directors of the authority shall appoint from among its members a chairman, secretary and treasurer and such other officers as may be necessary to conduct its business. The board of directors shall broadly represent the sports and tourism industry, including the resort, hotel and motel industry; the restaurant industry; amateur youth sports; Major League Baseball spring training; the Southern Arizona Chamber of Commerce Alliance; the Tucson Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau; Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities, Inc.; the athletic directors or their designees from the University of Arizona and Pima Community College; and public high schools athletics within Pima County.

7. TERM. The Authority is intended to be an interim activity, and shall be sunsetted when legislation is enacted by the Arizona Legislature to create an authority similar to the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority operating within Maricopa County.


8. MEETINGS. The Authority shall establish a regular meeting time and day, and post the notice and agenda of said meeting and its location in accordance with the open meeting laws of Arizona. All proceedings and records of the Authority shall be open for public inspection and review. The public is invited to attend, observe and participate under "Call to the Audience" in said meetings. The Authority will receive administrative support from Pima County. Other jurisdictions and municipalities within Pima County are encouraged to provide similar support.

Passed and adopted this 1st day of April, 2008.

Pima County Board of Supervisors

  
Richard Elias, Chairman 4/1/08

Attest:

  
Lori Godoshian  
Clerk of the Board

Approved as to Form:

  
Deputy County Attorney