

Brenda Garcia

From: Angie Gelsinon [angie@kaneenpr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2009 12:43 PM
To: Nicole Ewing-Gavin
Subject: FW: E-mail from TucsonPimaWaterStudy.com - Comments

-----Original Message-----

From: noreply@tucsonpimawaterstudy.com
[mailto:noreply@tucsonpimawaterstudy.com]
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2009 1:16 PM
To: info@tucsonpimawaterstudy.com
Subject: E-mail from TucsonPimaWaterStudy.com - Comments

Email Address: smegdal@cals.arizona.edu

Comments/Questions: November 24, 2009

Joint City/County Water/Wastewater Oversight Committee
Tucson Pima Water Study
PO Box 2344
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Committee,

We appreciate this opportunity to review and comment on the City of Tucson/Pima County Water Study Phase II report. At the University of Arizona, the Water Resources Research Center has been working for several years on projects recognizing and addressing environmental water needs in Arizona and in Tucson, specifically. We support the Staff Report's Guiding Principle of "Respect for the Environment," as our local riparian areas require critical attention. As noted in your report, restoration or enhancement of important riparian areas will require inputs of water as well as funding and staff resources.

Thank you for recognizing in your report the WRRRC's effort to establish a funding mechanism for supporting environmental enhancement in this community. We are glad to have had a longstanding partnership with the City of Tucson in developing this mechanism. We support the recommendation to initiate the Tucson Environmental Water Banking Program, which will provide a mechanism for using water conservation to develop water sources for environmental projects.

We are also in support of the recommendation to establish a regional framework for restoration with the assistance of local partners. As part of the establishing the Environmental Water Banking Program, our partners have been assembling information about restoration opportunities, including our recently updated report, "Riparian Restoration Efforts in the Santa Cruz River Basin." We agree that there is a need for a community-wide discussion in support of a regional plan for restoration. We have recently received funding to initiate a synthesis of available information about environmental water needs across the state, and would be interested in participating in such a discussion were it to be initiated.

We stand ready to work with the City and the County in moving forward with these important programs.

Sincerely,

Sharon B. Megdal, Director
Joanna Bate, Research Assistant

Do you wish to receive emails and posted mail information from
the Water Infrastructure, Supply and Planning Study?

No