




MEMORANDUM

Date: August 23, 2018

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: Neighborhood Reinvestment Program Completion

Since 1974, Pima County has used \$30 million of voter-approved General Obligation bonds to revitalize neighborhoods with 108 small community-based capital improvement projects such as, sidewalks, park improvements and street lighting improvements. Soon, the last of the projects will be completed and work of staff and the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee will conclude.

The attached memorandum summarizes the status of the two remaining projects, which will transition to the responsibility of the Project Management Office.

My thanks to the current and past members of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee who, since 1998, have held meetings, listened to public concern, reviewed and made recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the criteria, timeline and projects funded for the betterment of this community.

CHH/lab

Attachment

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Margaret Kish, Director, Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation
Nicole Fyffe, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator
Neighborhood Reinvestment Advisory Committee Members



MEMORANDUM

Date: August 23, 2018

To: C. H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

From: Jan Leshner 
Chief Deputy County Administrator

Re: Neighborhood Reinvestment Program Completion

Introduction

Since 1997, Pima County has used voter-approved General Obligation bonds to revitalize neighborhoods with small, community-based capital improvement projects such as sidewalks, park improvements and street lighting improvements. Soon, the last of the projects will be completed and work of staff and the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee will conclude. The positive impact felt in stressed communities from the enhancements made possible will, however, continue for decades to come.

Completion of 1997 and 2004 Neighborhood Reinvestment General Obligation Bond Projects

The Neighborhood Reinvestment 1997 and 2004 General Obligation Bond programs totaled \$30,000,000, of which \$5,000,000 was directed for specific housing projects. Of the 108 projects made possible through these bonds, currently five (5) projects remain active, with three (3) of these projects scheduled for completion by the end of August. The two (2) remaining projects scheduled for completion during the current Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19 are:

1. South Tucson Land Acquisition/Pedestrian Crossing Lights (\$200,000/2004 GO Bonds), managed by County Project Management Office, and
2. Five Points Intersection Gateway (\$496,880 2004 GO Bonds), managed by the City of Tucson Department of Transportation, with oversight by Assistant County Administrator Nanette Slusser.

While projects are not allowed to exceed budgets, some are completed under budget.¹ In 2016, the Neighborhood Reinvestment program had \$1,544,893 in available bond funds uncommitted by the Board of Supervisors. Most of this amount was a result of cost savings from completed projects, which finished under their budgets. The Neighborhood Reinvestment staff worked with eligible neighborhoods that had pending project proposals. Those neighborhoods submitted proposals pursuant to the process established by the bond implementation ordinance and the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee. The Committee scheduled three public meetings in 2016 to review and consider the ten proposals and ultimately sent their recommendations for the expenditure of all remaining funds to the Board of Supervisors, which approved funding.

¹ Additional funding from other sources was added to some project to expand the scope of those projects. This memorandum addresses, and the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee is responsible for, only those funds made possible by the General Obligation bonds.

Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee

The 1997 Bond Ordinance included a provision that established a public review committee tasked with "holding meetings throughout the community to receive public concerns on eligible and neighborhood requested projects."² In April 1998, the Board of Supervisors created the Neighborhood Reinvestment Community Projects Advisory Committee to "review, make recommendations, set criteria, timelines, obtain staffing support from Pima County and outside people to help prepare the use of the monies from the bond sales."³

The 2004 Bond Ordinance continued the work of the Committee to include projects funded with 2004 bond dollars noting, the "Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee... will continue in place and guide implementation of the neighborhood and housing components of reinvestment funding and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on funding..."⁴

Since the projects have all been determined and funds have been obligated by the Board of Supervisors, it is appropriate to sunset the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee. This would be consistent with action taken regarding Committees and Commissions relating to the oversight of bond projects. For example, the Conservation Acquisition Commission and the DM Open Space Committee both had advisory roles related to General Obligation bonds. Both have stopped meeting after the bond funds had been fully allocated. As the funds have been fully allocated, the work of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee has concluded. The Bond Advisory Committee is still operational, and it will continue to receive the regular status reports on completing those projects and the other few remaining projects.

Recommendation

As the Neighborhood Reinvestment program readies for closure, there may be de minimis cost savings realized on these remaining projects. I recommend the Project Management Office be directed to assign any residual funds to any of the remaining projects, as needed. This will allow the County to move towards full closure of the 1997 and 2004 General Obligation Bonds for the Neighborhood Reinvestment program.

I further recommend the work of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee be deemed complete and the Committee conclude its deliberations.

 Approved / Not Approved

Chuck Huckelberry, County Administrator Date

c: Margaret Kish, Director, Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation
Nicole Fyffe, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator

2 1997 Bond Ordinance, Pages 108, 109. VI. C. Neighborhood Reinvestment 4. Project Evaluation
3 April 21, 1998 Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda, Addendum I, Item 14. Board of Supervisors: Advisory Committee Formation Establishment of the Oversight and Advisory Committee.
4 April 13, 2004 Board approval of Bond Ordinance, pages 55-59