



Appendix C

Viewshed Inventory

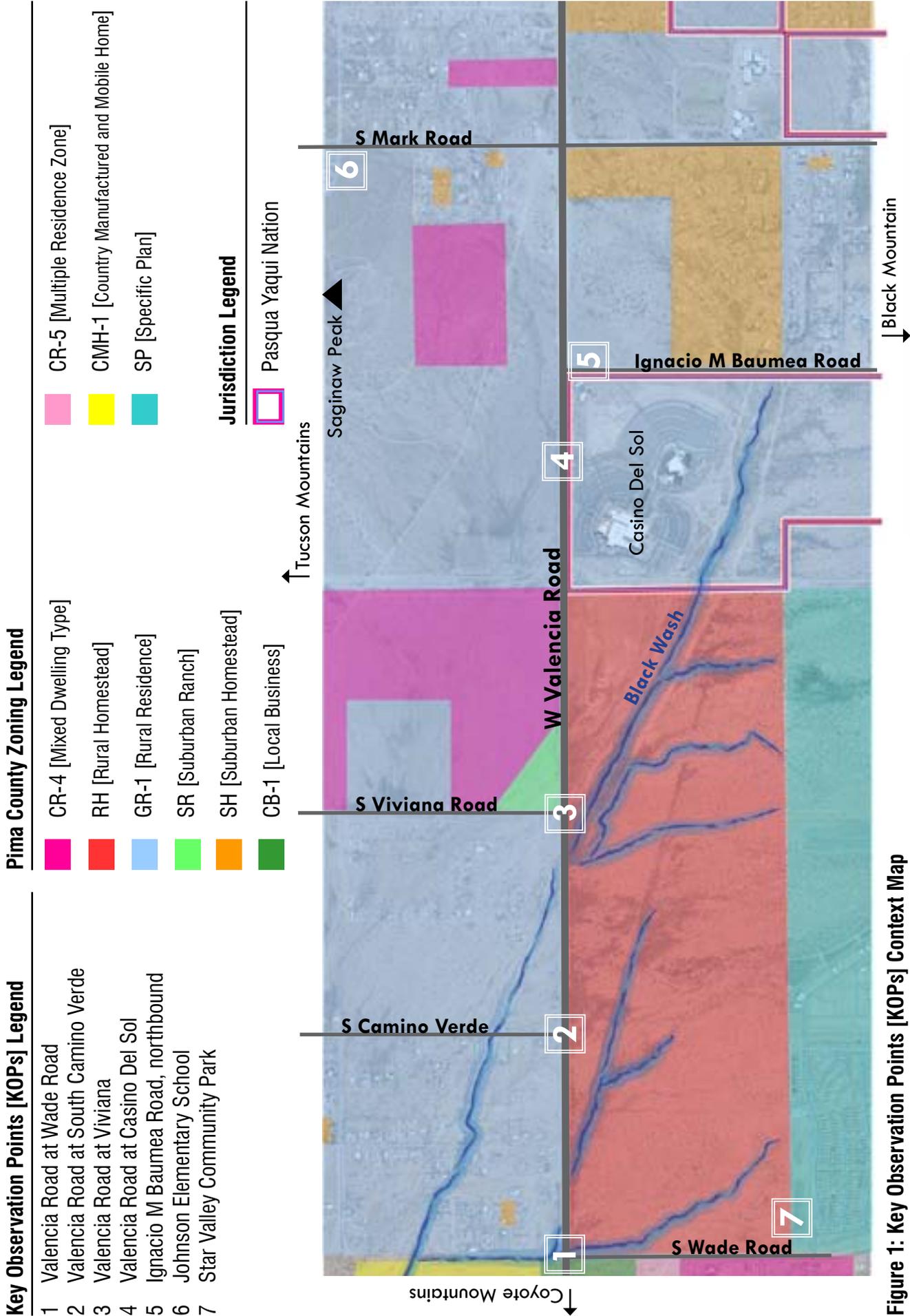
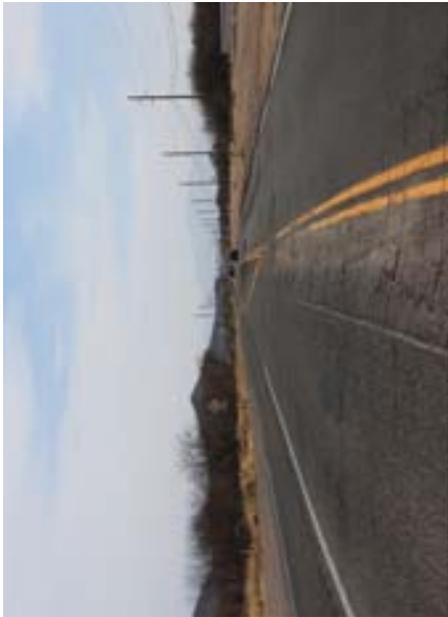


Figure 1: Key Observation Points [KOPs] Context Map

KOP 1 VALENCIA ROAD AT WADE ROAD



[A] Looking east, Valencia Road dominates the foreground.



[B] The hills and mountains in the background are obscured by vegetation in the middle ground.



[C] Looking east along the project area, Valencia Road, white fencing, mailboxes, and power poles are prominent cultural modifications.



KOP 1 ASSESSMENT

Viewers + Viewing Condition

The viewers from this KOP are local and regional motorists, travelling along the project roadway at moderate volume and speed (50 mph). Viewers also include bicyclists and pedestrians. Since all of these viewers are travelling on the project roadway, the project area is highly visible and these viewers have a high level of sensitivity toward changes in the project area.

Setting

Landform

The foreground landform has little change in elevation. Views of hills and mountains in the middle ground and background are obscured by vegetation.

Vegetation

Views are dominated by roadside xeroriparian vegetation as well areas of desertscrub. Both vegetative communities show signs of disturbance.

Color

There are subtle color variations, offering little contrast between the vegetation and surrounding landscape elements. In general colors are muted grays, greens, and browns. However, the frequently blue skies in this region offer a sharp contrast to the vegetation color.

Adjacent Scenery

The surrounding hills and mountains are obscured by foreground vegetation, so they do not enhance the quality of the views from this KOP.

Scarcity/Uniqueness

Similar views are common within the region; therefore, views from this KOP are not unique.

Cultural Modifications

These include Valencia Road, white fencing, mailboxes, power poles, and housing on the distant hillsides. Valencia Road and the cleared right-of-way on both sides of the road are the most dominant features of the viewshed. All cultural modifications present in the project area are in contrast to the natural surroundings.

Scenic Quality Ratings

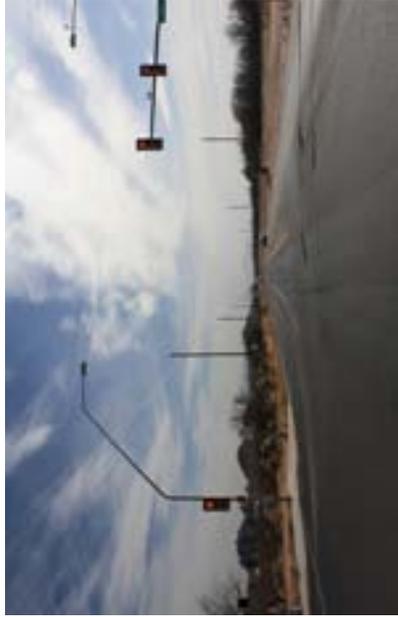
landform	1
vegetation	1
water	0
color	1
adjacent scenery	1
scarcity/uniqueness	1
cultural modifications	-2
TOTAL	3
Scenic Quality	minimal

Ratings based on Table 5 of *Pima County Roadway Design Manual*. See *Appendix A*.

KOP 2 VALENCIA ROAD AT SOUTH CAMINO VERDE



[A] A view to the west shows Valencia Road as a dominant foreground element with little visual interest in the middle ground or background.



[B] Looking east, Valencia Road and the traffic lights at the South Camino Verde intersection are the most prominent elements in the view.



[C] At the South Camino Verde intersection, there are clear views of the Tucson Mountains to the north; otherwise, the mountains are obscured by vegetation in the middle ground.



KOP 2 ASSESSMENT

Viewers + Viewing Condition

Viewers from this KOP include regional and local motorists as well as bicyclists and pedestrians. These viewers are travelling at moderate to high volume and low to moderate speed (50 mph). Since they are travelling on Valencia Road, the project area is highly visible and viewer sensitivity to changes in the project area is high.

Setting

Landform

The foreground is dominated by the project roadway. The middle ground landform is flat. Mountains and low hills are somewhat visible in the background.

Vegetation

The vegetative mass is dominated by xeroriparian scrub and desert scrub. Both vegetative communities show signs of disturbance.

Color

There are subtle color variations, offering little contrast between the vegetation and surrounding landscape elements. In general, colors are muted grays, greens, and browns. However, frequently blue skies in this region offer a sharp contrast to the vegetation color.

Adjacent Scenery

From this KOP, there are background views of the Tucson Mountains to the north, Rincon Mountains in the distant east, Black Mountain to the southeast, and the Coyote Mountains to the west. This adjacent scenery only moderately enhances the visual quality from this KOP.

Scarcity/Uniqueness

Views from this KOP are common in the region, so they are not unique.

Cultural Modifications

These include Valencia Road, traffic lights, traffic signs, power poles, and Casino Del Sol. Valencia Road, traffic lights, and traffic signs dominate the foreground. Power poles are prominent due to their vertical profile, which is in contrast to the natural setting. Casino Del Sol is a middle ground element, but has low impact on the viewshed because it is screened by vegetation.



[D] Looking east, the Rincon Mountains are visible in the distant back ground, and Casino Del Sol is obscured by middleground vegetation.

Scenic Quality Ratings

landform	3
vegetation	1
water	0
color	1
adjacent scenery	3
scarcity/uniqueness	1
cultural modifications	-2
TOTAL	7
Scenic Quality	minimal

Ratings based on Table 5 of *Pima County Roadway Design Manual*. See Appendix A.

KOP 3 VALENCIA ROAD, AT VIVIANA



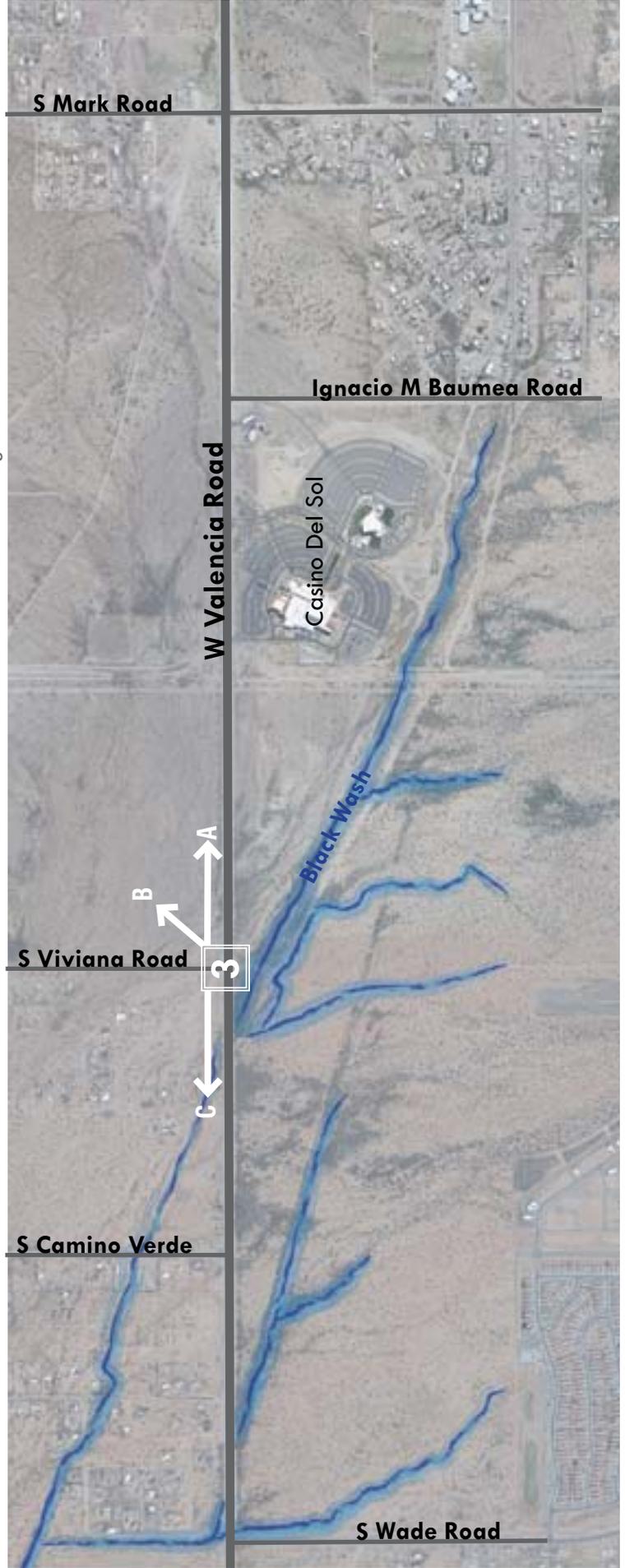
[A] Looking east, Valencia Road and the cleared shoulders dominate the view.



[B] Low hills, including Saginaw Peak and Red Butte can be seen to the northeast.



[C] Looking west, Valencia Road and the cleared shoulders dominate the view. There are no prominent background elements.



KOP 3 ASSESSMENT

Viewers + Viewing Condition

Viewers from this KOP include regional and local motorists as well as bicyclists and pedestrians. These viewers are travelling at moderate to high volume and low to moderate speed (50 mph). Since they are travelling along Valencia Road, their sensitivity to changes in the project area is high.

Setting

Landform

The foreground view is dominated by the low, horizontal roadway and the wide shoulders that have been cleared of vegetation. The middleground is flat with little vertical interest or variation. There are low hills in the background.

Vegetation

The vegetative mass is dominated by xeroriparian scrub and desert scrub. Both vegetative communities show signs of disturbance. The variation in vegetation is attributed to the Black Wash crossing at Valencia near this KOP.

Color

There are subtle color variations offering little contrast between the vegetation and surrounding landscape elements from this KOP. In general, colors are muted grays, greens, and browns.

Adjacent Scenery

The Tucson Mountains and Black Mountain in the background minimally enhance the view from the roadway.

Scarcity/Uniqueness

The view of the mountains minimally enhances the visual quality of the roadway from this KOP, and similar views are fairly common within the region, giving them a low level of uniqueness.

Cultural Modifications

Cultural modifications visible from this KOP include Valencia Road, power poles, mailboxes, Casino Del Sol, and residential development. Valencia Road, power poles and the wide shoulders that have been cleared of vegetation are the most prominent elements of the landscape. Casino Del Sol is visible, but is partially screened by vegetation in the middle ground.



[D] Mailboxes are in contrast to the natural setting but do not greatly detract from the visual quality in comparison to other cultural modifications present in the area. Casino Del Sol in the background is mostly obscured by middle ground vegetation.

Scenic Quality Ratings

landform	3
vegetation	3
water	0
color	3
adjacent scenery	3
scarcity/uniqueness	1
cultural modifications	-1
TOTAL	12
Scenic Quality	common

Ratings based on Table 5 of *Pima County Roadway Design Manual*. See Appendix A.

KOP 4 VALENCIA ROAD AT CASINO DEL SOL



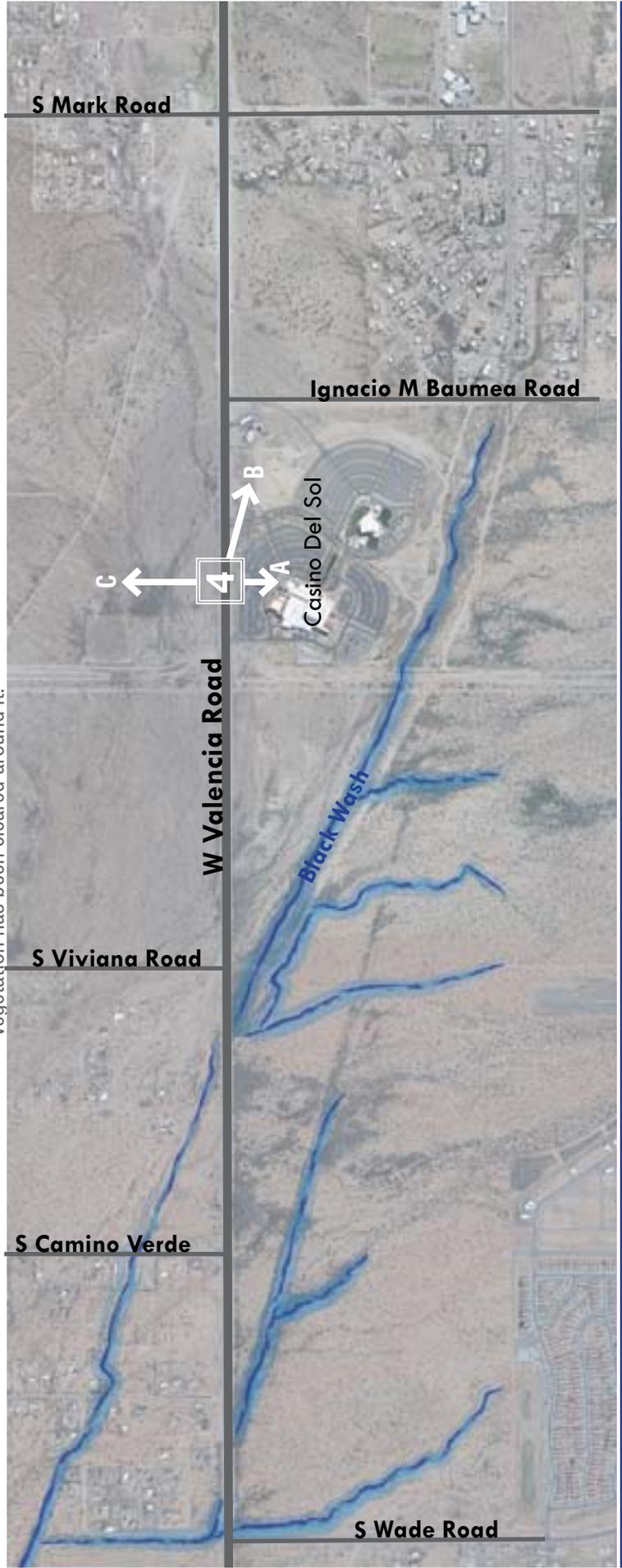
[A] Casino Del Sol is a prominent foreground and middle ground element.



[B] The Casino Del Sol gas station on the south side of Valencia is highly visible, and the majority of the vegetation has been cleared around it.



[C] Low hills are in the middle ground to the north of Valencia Road.



KOP 4 ASSESSMENT

Viewers + Viewing Condition

Viewers from this KOP include regional and local motorists as well as bicyclists and pedestrians. These viewers are travelling at moderate to high volume and low to moderate speed (50 mph). Since they are travelling on Valencia Road, their sensitivity to changes is high.

Setting

Landform

The foreground view is dominated by Valencia Road and the cleared right-of-way. There are some low hills in the middle ground, including Saginaw Peak and Red Butte. To the east, the Rincon Mountains are faintly visible in the background.

Vegetation

The vegetative mass is dominated by xeroriparian scrub and desert scrub. Both vegetative communities show signs of disturbance. There is additional variation in vegetation due to ornamental plantings around Casino Del Sol.

Color

From this KOP there are more color variations from cultural modifications present in the area contrasting the colors of the natural elements of the surrounding landscape.

Adjacent Scenery

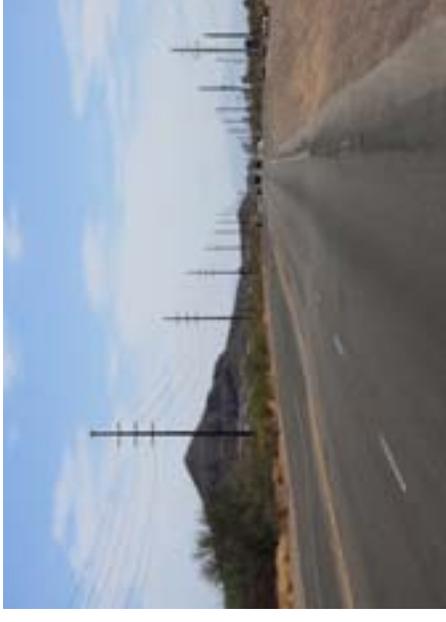
Low hills in the middle and background minimally enhance the visual quality from the roadway.

Scarcity/Uniqueness

The views of the hills in the middle ground are unique to the region from this vantage point.

Cultural Modifications

These include Valencia Road, power poles, Casino Del Sol, a gas station, and residential development. Valencia Road, the power poles, Casino Del Sol, and the gas station are the most dominant elements. Their form and color are in high contrast to the natural surroundings of this KOP. Residential development is the least prominent element despite it has been built on the slopes of the surrounding hills.



[D] To the east, some residential development is visible on the hillside of Saginaw Peak but is partially screened by vegetation in the middleground. The Rincon Mountains are visible in the distant background. The power poles are a prominent vertical element.

Scenic Quality Ratings

landform	3
vegetation	3
water	0
color	3
adjacent scenery	3
scarcity/uniqueness	3
cultural modifications	-2
TOTAL	13
Scenic Quality	common

Ratings based on Table 5 of *Pima County Roadway Design Manual*. See Appendix A.

KOP 5 IGNACIO M BAUMEA ROAD, NORTHBOUND



[A] Looking north toward Valencia Road, Ignacio M Baumea Road is the dominant foreground element.



[B] View to the northeast from Ignacio M. Baumea Road, at Valencia Road.



[C] Landscape planting and the gas station on the southwest corner are dominant visual elements.



KOP 5 ASSESSMENT

Viewers + Viewing Condition

Viewers from this KOP include regional and local motorists as well as bicyclists and pedestrians. They are travelling at low to moderate volume and low to moderate speed (45 mph). The project area is moderately visible to these viewers. Most viewers will turn onto Valencia Road making them moderately sensitive to changes in the project area.

Setting

Landform

The foreground is dominated by Ignacio M Baumea Road and creosote flats. There are low hills in the middle ground and background as well as the Tucson Mountains in the background.

Vegetation

The vegetative mass is dominated by creosote flats. There is also ornamental planting along Ignacio M Baumea Road, adding some contrast in vegetation type and density.

Color

There are subtle color variations, offering some contrast between the vegetation and surrounding landscape elements. In general colors are muted grays, greens, and browns. The landscape planting and rock placement as well as the gas station add contrast in color.

Adjacent Scenery

The low hills in the middleground and the mountains in the background do more to enhance to the visual quality at this KOP in comparison to other KOPs due to the fact that there is less vegetative screening adjacent to this viewpoint.

Scarcity/Uniqueness

The mountain views are not dramatic from this KOP, but within the region it is uncommon to see hills of this size in the middle ground, so they do add unique qualities to this viewshed.

Cultural Modifications

These include Ignacio M Baumea, Valencia Road, the gas station, power poles, sidewalks, and signs. Ignacio M Baumea is the most dominant cultural modification in the foreground. The vertical profile of the power poles is in contrast to the natural setting, and they detract from the natural scenic quality.

Scenic Quality Ratings

landform	3
vegetation	3
water	0
color	3
adjacent scenery	3
scarcity/uniqueness	3
cultural modifications	-2
TOTAL	13
Scenic Quality	common

Ratings based on Table 5 of *Pima County Roadway Design Manual*. See *Appendix A*.

KOP 6 JOHNSON ELEMENTARY

Viewers + Viewing Condition + Setting

Viewers include students, faculty, and staff of Johnson Elementary School. This viewpoint was not evaluated for viewing condition or setting because the project area was not visible from this key observation point and proposed project elements were not seen as affecting the visual quality from this vantage point.



[A] View looking toward the proposed project area from Johnson Elementary School.



Design Manual. See Appendix A.

KOP 7 STAR VALLEY COMMUNITY PARK

Viewers + Viewing Condition + Setting

Viewers from this KOP include residents of the Star Valley Community as well as nearby residential developments. This viewpoint was not evaluated for viewing condition or setting because the project area was not visible from this key observation point and proposed project elements were not seen as affecting the visual quality from this vantage point.



[A] View toward the proposed project area from Star Valley Community Park.



VIEWSHED INVENTORY SUMMARY

Viewshed Inventory Summary

Because of its low, horizontal profile, the proposed project area is not significantly visible from KOPs oriented at a perpendicular viewing angle. More dense vegetation in the area screens views to the project area, decreasing its visibility. Furthermore, viewers from these KOPs have low to moderate sensitivity to changes in the project area, which further reduces the potential impact of the proposed design on existing visual resources. Because there are currently very few roads adjacent to the project area, the quantity of viewers being impacted by changes to the project area is reduced.

For KOPs located directly on Valencia Road (KOPs 1,2,3,4), the existing road significantly impacts the visual quality of the natural surroundings. Elements such as power poles, signs, and street lights have an additional negative visual impact because their vertical character is in high contrast to the low profile of the natural setting. Viewers from these KOPs have a high sensitivity to changes in the project area, which increases the visual impact of the proposed design on existing visual resources.

To summarize, viewers of the project area have a higher sensitivity to changes in the vertical profile of roadway elements, while viewers from the project area have a high sensitivity to changes to both horizontal (roadway width) and vertical elements (power poles, fencing, structure) of the roadway.

Table 1: Scenic Quality Summary

KOP#	1	2	3	4	5
view point	Valencia Road at Wade Road	Valencia Road at South Camino Verde	Valencia Road at Viviana	Valencia Road at Casino Del Sol	Ignacio M Baumea, northbound
landform	1	3	3	3	3
vegetation	1	1	3	3	3
water	0	0	0	0	0
color	1	1	3	3	3
adjacent scenery	1	3	3	3	3
uniqueness	1	1	1	3	3
cultural modification	-2	-2	-1	-2	-2
TOTAL	3	7	12	13	13
SCENIC QUALITY	minimal	minimal	common	common	common

0-11 = minimal
 12-18 = common
 19+ = distinctive