

2021 COMMON GROUND

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Kudos!

To the 2021 Common Ground Award Winners!



We at WestLand Resources extend our gratitude and admiration to the Common Ground finalists and are proud to be part of this resilient, forward-thinking and collaborative community.



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COMMON GROUND

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	3
It's all fun and games...when you play together! - Allyson Solomon, MPA Exec. Director	4
Growth through collaboration and innovation	5
MPA Board of Directors and Staff	5
Rob Lamb, Board Chair MPA	6
MPA Common Ground Awards	6
Jim Tress, President/CEO, WestLand Resources, Inc...	6
Award of Distinction.	8
MPA Common Ground Finalists	9
MPA Common Ground Finalists	11
MPA Common Ground Finalists	13
MPA Common Ground Finalists	15
MPA Common Ground Finalists	17
MPA Common Ground Finalists	19
MPA Common Ground Finalists	21
MPA Common Ground Finalists	23
MPA Common Ground Finalists	25
Thank you to our Sponsors.	30
Thank you to our Sponsors.	31
Thank you to our Sponsors.	32

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It's all fun and games...when you play together!



It's all about teamwork! MPA weathered the storm that was COVID-19 due in a large part to the coming together and collaboration of the staff, Allyson and Emilia and the Board of Directors. The organization was forced to cancel or delay its two signature events- Common Ground and Wild Ride- and transition its monthly in person programming to a virtual only format. Though this transition was not easy, the teamwork it took to accomplish it strengthened MPA and forced the organization to grow and think outside of the box. Much like MPA, all of the projects being honored this year have had to learn how to navigate challenging situations but became better for it.

As MPA celebrates 24 years of collaboration and hosts its 16th annual Common Ground Awards Celebration, I am struck by the collaboration our community has demonstrated to coming together and working through challenges, emerging stronger than before.



Collaboration is the cornerstone of Metropolitan Pima Alliance's mission, and the gold standard by which the Common Ground Award applicants are judged. Working together to achieve growth, prosperity and the betterment of our community are characteristics shared by all 23 projects honored at this year's ceremony.

Many of the projects that have been awarded over the last 15 years may not have been glamorous, but they are significant because they are reflective of hours worked, the unlikely partnerships formed, and the many obstacles and setbacks that needed to be overcome for

Southern Arizona to succeed.

The finalists being honored at this year's ceremony all demonstrate a commitment to collaborate and to achieve common ground. This year's Award of Distinction winner, Center for Opportunity, demonstrates their commitment to our community by pairing together a local non-profit and a philanthropist with a large heart and desire to help those who need it most. We could not be more proud of the work the Center for Opportunity, powered by the Gospel Rescue Mission does within our Tucson community.

It is incredible to learn about all the amazing projects taking place in Southern Arizona, we are excited to share them with you and recognize those involved. We hope you have a wonderful time tonight, thank you for joining us as we celebrate collaboration in our community!

Cheers,
Allyson Solomon, Executive Director
Emilia Elrey, Director of Operations



Growth through collaboration and innovation



Mission:

Metropolitan Pima Alliance (MPA) works to create a prosperous community by promoting collaborative real estate development policies, building partnerships and finding Common Ground.

MPA's focus is to create sensible land use and development policies and practices by encouraging and assembling reasonable and respectful dialogue amongst diverse groups and interests. Unique to the region, MPA is an alliance of business, government, and non-profit organizations. MPA's goals directly relate to improving our region's quality of life and economic vitality. MPA strongly believes in the positive participation and contributions of the private business sector working in collaboration with local jurisdictions.

Land development is the foundation of economic development and our role in the community is to advocate for balanced residential and commercial land-use policies that stimulate economic development and reasonably preserves our natural environment. MPA's goal is to participate, educate and influence public policy and decision making for Metropolitan Pima County. Since its inception, MPA has grown to become a major voice in the community on growth-related issues. Aside from policy creation, MPA brings the community together. The organization's annual awards celebration, Common Ground, provides development projects and programs across Southern Arizona the opportunity to be celebrated for their uniqueness and impact on the greater community. The winning projects are widely viewed as the "gold standard" of projects and programs within the region.

2021 MPA Board of Directors

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MPA Staff

Allyson Solomon • Emilia Elrey

A Message From the Board Chair



Welcome to the Metropolitan Pima Alliance's Common Ground Awards Celebration. This year, in particular, we have a lot to celebrate. MPA was founded over 20 years ago to foster collaborative relationships, policies and innovation in the preservation and development of the places we work, learn, and live. In the last 14 months we have seen our community respond to some substantial and unseen challenges in the Covid pandemic. Our business, government and community partners have taken on these challenges to not only continue moving Southern Arizona forward, but to quickly respond to new needs that emerged.

We can be proud of those who responded to those needs and, in the spirit of collaboration, did the real work to make things happen. Against a backdrop of an increasingly polarized national political climate, we have seen local collaboration across municipal jurisdictions,

private and public entities, competing policy perspectives, for profit and non-profit organizations – all while strengthening existing relationships and forming new ones.

Thanks to all who contributed to these projects we celebrate, and to those that are still to come!

Rob Lamb
COO, GLHN Architects & Engineers
2021 MPA Board Chair

MPA's Common Ground Awards

MPA's Common Ground Awards recognizes community leaders, projects and events with successful collaboration for the overall benefit of the community. Whether it is land development, economic development, or community development, it is pertinent for all parties to find common ground and the Board-selected winners are bestowed their Common Ground Award. Emphasis is placed on collaboration that is atypical and falls outside of the normal day-to-day processes of our respective workplaces.

Award applicants took part in a multi-step process; semi-finalists were interviewed and scored based on a set of criteria including the complexity of collaboration; uniqueness of collaboration; uniqueness of project/program; benefit to the community; impact on the development community. The Common Ground Awards recognizes the Top 20 projects of the year with the highest scores. Ten (10) projects will receive a Common Ground Award while ten (10) others receive an Award of Merit. All information submitted within the event program was provided by each applicant.



2021 Committee Members

Ryan Stucki, Chair - Engineering & Environmental Consultants • Edgar Parra, Vice-Chair – Breckenridge Group
Kat Anderson - GLHN Architects & Engineers • Courtney Hoyt - Sundt Construction
Vanessa Martinez - WestLand Resources
Fred Narcaroti - Ninyo & Moore Geotechnical & Environmental Sciences Consultants
Paul Pena - Lloyd Construction Company • Mike Polletta - Holbrook Asphalt
David Ramsower – Board Member • Nancy Rath - Cadden Community Management
Mike Smejkal – Tucson Airport Authority • Alice Templeton - Barker Contracting
Eric Weiss - Alliance Bank of Arizona

Apart we survive, together we thrive



2020 was an unprecedented year. We experienced a global pandemic and had to pivot rapidly to the much-debated “new normal.” Many of us were fortunate to shift successfully to virtual work, but thousands of essential workers showed up every day to provide the essential services we needed to keep our communities functioning in unprecedented circumstances. For their extraordinary efforts, I am eternally grateful. I for one am looking forward to the “next normal.”

We all experienced a range of emotions in response to the challenges of the past year; but if I could choose one word that best describes the year we had as it pertains to our local A/E/C and development community, it would be “resiliency.” Resiliency is about persevering in the face of adversity, and resiliency is truly evident in each of the 2021 Common Ground finalist projects.

The lengths these teams went to complete their projects under challenging circumstances without delay is truly impressive. Their resiliency in responding to the demands of projects with multiple moving pieces entail, combined with almost weekly changes in health and safety protocols, is evident in all of the 2021 Common Ground Finalists. Some projects were born of the pandemic and were swift responses to protect and support our community. Each of the teams demonstrated unprecedented levels of collaboration, as well as unique and innovative strategies to be successful. The heightened levels of collaboration were vital to push their projects through to completion.

These projects and the team collaboration celebrated here tonight illustrate why it is so great to live in our community, be in this industry; be a member firm of the Metropolitan Pima Alliance and for me personally, to be an MPA Board Member. What I value about the Common Ground Awards is that we celebrate unique projects and the collaboration of teams involved – the collaboration of sometimes unlikely partners who are committed to building a better community. We have an opportunity to learn about the behind-the-scenes activities we may not otherwise know; and most important, we come together to celebrate their success.

It is my great pleasure, on behalf of all the employee-owners of WestLand Resources and the MPA Board, to extend my gratitude and admiration to these teams that did not waiver in their commitment to help make our community better for the benefit of all.

Jim Tress, President/CEO
WestLand Resources, Inc.

2021 Award of Distinction: Center for Opportunity



The H.S. Lopez Family Foundation Center of Opportunity opened two years ago at close to capacity of 300 beds. Since opening, the Center has served over 460,000 nutritious meals and provided more than 170,000 nights of shelter for homeless men, women, and children with its managing partner, Gospel Rescue Mission. It's a place where Tucson's least, last, and lost come for hope and the chance for a new beginning; and where everyone is treated with love, dignity, and respect. The Center of Opportunity has shown that nothing, not even a virus crisis, is a match for compassion. It kept its doors open every day, and to date has helped over 500 guests find jobs, more than 240 guests get permanent housing, and over 120 guests find freedom from the bonds of addiction.

There are over thirty partnering organizations at the Center of Opportunity, including El Rio Health, Department of Economic Security, and La Frontera just to name a few, and it's the collaboration of all of these organizations, working together at one single location to bring life-changing services to the homeless and hurting, that makes the Center of Opportunity such a special and unique place.

Since opening, four new buildings have been added. Funded and constructed by the H.S. Lopez Family Foundation, these buildings have expanded the services and beautified the campus at the Center of Opportunity. Guests are now greeted at the brand-new Welcome Center, which is next to the new office for government benefits. Nearby are the new Medical and Dental Clinic, and the new Job Training Center. A new Courtyard Building will house many of the partner social service organizations, and also includes the Wellness Center and a library. Gospel Rescue Mission also added a new Donation Center to process all material donations for use onsite or to be given out at no charge to the community in need. La Frontera is currently remodeling the 6-story tower into 100 permanent low-income apartments, which will open later this year.

The Center of Opportunity is a place that helps rebuild lives and transform futures. It is like nothing Tucson has ever seen before, and has changed the face of homelessness in our city forever.



MPA Common Ground Finalists



Catholic University - Tucson

In 2017, The Catholic University of America (the pontifical university in the US) launched an effort to deliver a high quality, low-cost, career-oriented business degree to underserved students in the Southwest. They launched the program with the first cohort of students in fall 2020—and are now refining it. Based on this research and some serendipity, Tucson was chosen as the best pilot city. They sought a program fit for the needs of Tucson—built with Tucson stakeholders. They spent the next two years developing relationships with the local Catholic diocese, private and public high schools, Pima Community College, and, in particular, the local business community. From these

experiences, it was learned that Tucson has suffered from a “brain-and talent drain,” in which local students who graduate from college often move elsewhere. They wanted the program not only to help lower-income students launch their careers, but to become part of a talent pipeline within Tucson. The tuition cost is one-fifth the cost of an on-campus degree compared to the Washington, DC campus. By partnering with a local community college, they hope to improve rates of retention, at least for students in the program. And by partnering with local businesses, they want to provide a way for the students to succeed in Tucson.

Collaborators: Pima Community College, Jim Click Automotive, HSL Properties, GLHN Architects & Engineers Inc., The Catholic University of America – Tucson, PICOR Commercial Real Estate Services, Capin-Vyborny, City of Tucson, Tucson Metro Chamber, Diocese of Tucson, Sunnyside High School, San Miguel High School, St. Augustine High School, Salpointe Catholic High School, Gigapult and Parker Dewey



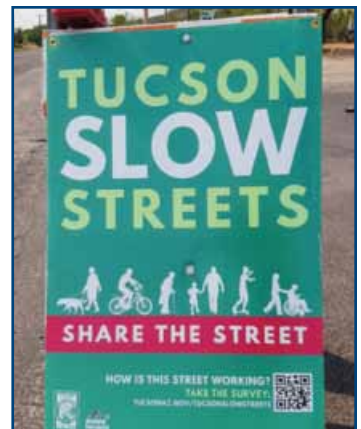
Children’s Clinics Angel Charity Center for CARE

This project involved renovation of a pediatric medical facility in order to create an innovative Center of Excellence designed to meet the needs of children with complex medical conditions and neurodevelopmental disorders such as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Children’s Clinics remained fully operational throughout the project including through May of 2020 amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The project utilized administrative and therapeutic space to double the amount of treatment rooms available, to expand the collaborative workspace for pediatric therapists, and to optimize storage of necessary equipment in order to improve care. Sensory needs of patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder and infection prevention were key concepts in this project, adding further complexity to an already unique project.

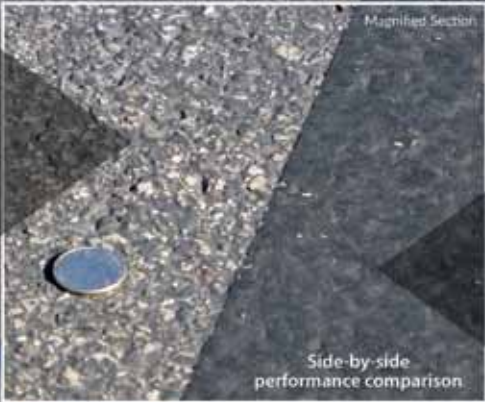
Collaborators: Children’s Clinics, Barker Contracting, Lizard Rock Designs, Square & Compass, Interiors In Design and Angel Charity for Children

City of Tucson Slow Streets Phase 2

The purpose of the City of Tucson Slow Streets Phase 2 project was to create slower, safer streets for City of Tucson residents. The added infrastructure and design elements encourage drivers to move through the area at slower speeds and more safely. To achieve this goal, the City, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), homeowners, and neighborhood block leaders had to be involved, thereby requiring extensive collaboration. These leaders identified unsafe areas in their neighborhoods and served as our point of contact to discuss the temporary or permanent improvements they wanted to see. This project was made possible by COVID-19 relief funds and the City’s decision to make neighborhoods safer, allowing citizens to practice social distancing outside on the streets. In a post-pandemic reality, Tucson Slow Streets Phase 2 will continue to serve the community with permanent speed calming improvements. More improvements were also documented to implement when more funding is available. This project benefited 15 different neighborhoods within the City, added two separate pavement marking projects to benefit two additional neighborhoods, and added bike/pedestrian enhancements to benefit three ADOT I-10 underpasses.





Collaborators: City of Tucson, Kimley-Horn, Arizona Department of Transportation, Barrio Centro Neighborhood, Oak Flower Neighborhood, Barrio Nopal Neighborhood, Rose Neighborhood, Palo Verde Park Neighborhood and Garden District Neighborhood



Premium polymer emulsion sealer
Picture taken FOUR YEARS after sealer was installed.

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Picture taken FOUR YEARS after HA5 was installed.

Side-by-side performance comparison.

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Common Ground Award

Nominees & Finalists

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MPA Common Ground Finalists - continued

The Flash



“The Flash” is a unique mixed-use and adaptive reuse project on South Sixth Avenue, half a block south of the “5 Points” intersection. The project consists of the acquisition and redevelopment of four neighboring properties into a 52-unit adaptive reuse and mixed-use project on 6th Avenue and 19th Street, just 6 blocks south of the Downtown core in the emerging Barrio Santa Rosa Neighborhood and within the Greater Infill Incentive District. The development of workforce housing is a very important and desperately needed initiative, especially as the price of downtown real estate continues to rise. This project allows for the ability to offer rents at below market rates for the area, which is great for the Tucson community and economy. The adaptive reuse plan will maintain the integrity and character of the building

but add key alterations to enhance the livability and experience.

Collaborators: The Flash TV, LLC, City of Tucson, Ward 5 Council Office, Durazo Construction, Lanning Architecture, Peach Properties, Cascade Engineering and Lazarus & Silvyn, P.C.

The Flin



The Flin includes 245 units with formats ranging from Studios up to 3-Bedroom configurations and the Flin’s 5,000 square feet of commercial space is the product of exemplary historic preservation. This diverse mix of units will deliver a diverse mix of approximately 500 residents that are representative of our community. The Flin’s residents have the commonality of wanting to enjoy, and perhaps more importantly add to, the vibrant lifestyle provided by downtown Tucson. Since construction began in late 2018, the development team has continued its extensive outreach and collaboration with the City, neighborhoods and other key stakeholders. The Flin is better for its residents and the community because of the extended development team’s efforts to find common ground. The initial planning

process included direct engagement with neighboring property owners, community development organizations as well as state and local government agencies.

Collaborators: HSL Properties, Inc., City of Tucson - Planning and Development Services, City of Tucson - Economic Development Office, City of Tucson - City Manager’s Office, City of Tucson - Mayor’s Office, City of Tucson - Ward 6 Office, City of Tucson - Department of Transportation, City of Tucson - Historic Preservation Office, City of Tucson - Parks and Recreation Department, Park Tucson, Tucson Fire Department, Tucson Water, Downtown Tucson Partnership, Tucson Convention Center, TCC Today, Tofel Dent Construction, Sundt + Concord Team, Los Descendientes del Presidio de Tucson, Arizona Historical Society, Visit Tucson, Farhang & Medcoff and Marist on Cathedral Square development.

The FORGE at Roy Place



The University of Arizona’s FORGE at Roy Place Renovation Project is in the heart of downtown, on the southeast corner of Stone and Pennington, in a building designed in 1928 by the well-known Tucson architect Roy Place. The main goal of this project was to deliver a variety of attractive spaces conducive to interactive learning, transformational mentoring, synergetic exchange, and collaborative officing for FORGE/UA, Startup Tucson, El Rio, JTED, and other business, government, and educational partners. The goals of the project were to provide a variety of learning, collaboration, meeting and office spaces for FORGE’s programs, innovation challenges and events while providing as much opportunity for “collisions” as possible between students, entrepreneurs, major downtown employers and a host of community mentors. The design process evolved as a dialogue between all stakeholders and, after much research and scrutiny of several design

options, resulted in the “Entrepreneurial Ecosystem” envisioned by FORGE to house their unique set of activities and partnerships. The final layout fully supports student interaction with teachers and mentors from Tucson’s economic and business community. In the future, the FORGE at Roy Place building will also host a wide variety of events, encouraging interaction between many diverse agencies, groups, students, elected officials, and leaders and mentors from local and worldwide business and industry.



UA FORGE
at Roy Place

Congratulations

2021 Common Ground Finalists!



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The most rewarding projects are those built to benefit our community.

We are *proud* to have been the General Contractor for both the
UA FORGE at Roy Place and Children's Clinics Angel Charity Center for CARE.

Children's Clinics Angel Charity Center for CARE



Photo Credit: Solaris Photography

MPA Common Ground Finalists - continued

The FORGE at Roy Place - continued

Collaborators: UArizona FORGE, Barker Contracting, MCS Architects, UArizona PDC, Startup Tucson, Pima County JTED, El Rio Health, Downtown Tucson Partnership, Pima Community College, City High School, Norton School, UArizona Bookstore, Pima County Development Services, Pima County Facilities Management, UArizona Facilities Management, UArizona Fire Safety, Arizona State Fire Marshal and City of Tucson Planning & Development Services

The Gallery



The Gallery is a 96-unit market-rate apartment building being developed in the eastern part of downtown Tucson near Armory Park. The seven-story apartment building will sit on the location of an old medical building/parking lot on 5th Avenue between Broadway and 12th Street. The apartments will be split evenly between studios and one-bedroom units of varying sizes that will have 50 parking spaces located on the ground level. Each unit will be equipped with a complete kitchen and laundry facility and all will have direct access to an outdoor balcony space. An 800-square-foot roof deck will act as an outdoor social space for residents and their guests. This area will sit two floors up above the building's leasing office and other amenity spaces. The building will feature a business center for use by residents which should come in handy as the project will be marketed to young professionals. The project, under construction, is the culmination of a long process that included presentations to and input from the Armory Park Neighborhood

Association, the IID review process with Planning and Development Services, and coordination and negotiations with the Tucson Department of Transportation and TEP. It is an exciting project that will provide a quality living environment geared to urban dwellers and young professionals. Due to the project's proximity to public transportation, abundance of new bicycle parking and two new ride-share spaces, the hope is that occupants will not necessarily need a private vehicle.

Collaborators: Sundt Construction, SBBL Architecture and Planning, A Karic Construction Consulting, We Fab Steel Inc., Achilles AC, AEC Electric and Leyva Drywall, LLC

The Historic Pima County Courthouse



The Historic Pima County Courthouse, designed and built in 1929 by Roy Place, has long been a significant symbol of Pima County; its iconic tiled dome even appears in the emblem of Pima County. At nearly 100 years old, Pima County leadership recognized that the historic structure was in need of refurbishment. It was clear that the Historic Pima County Courthouse needed to remain a public facility, but during its rejuvenation, several new partnerships developed that opened up fresh possibilities for the adaptive reuse of the space. On Pima County's radar since 2010, the renovation began in 2017. The project involved multiple phases, from a building assessment to an exterior and infrastructure renovation, to an interior renovation; it encompassed both a historic restoration and an adaptive reuse of portions of the project into museum, research, office, and visitor center spaces. Through the scope of this unique renovation project, a public building that was once strictly a county legal and law enforcement facility now additionally

encompasses the Southern Arizona Heritage & Visitor Center, the headquarters of local tourism advocate Visit Tucson, the University of Arizona's Alfie Norville Gem and Mineral Museum, and the January 8th Memorial.

Collaborators: Pima County, Poster Mirto McDonald, Ralph Applebaum and Associates, Design and Production, Inc., Technical Artistry, MWG Structural Engineers, KC Mechanical, Monrad Engineering, University of Arizona, Visit Tucson, Lloyd Construction, Millwork By Design, Old Pueblo Stucco and Casas Custom Floor Care

The Houghton Reserve Project

The project located in the northeastern quadrant of Houghton and Broadway involved extensive negotiation and work with surrounding neighborhoods to rezone a 99-acres parcel that is now surrounded by residential and commercial growth. The Project was a partnership between the landowners and Meritage Homes that required a City-approved rezoning and was designed after extensive work with two of the adjacent neighborhoods and the Ward 2 office. Houghton Reserve is an infill, Flexible Lot Design ("FLD") subdivision that, even though it met all City planning and policy documents, required extensive outreach and work with existing residents to ensure compatible design/transitions and a successful rezoning. As an infill



MPA Common Ground Finalists - continued



The Houghton Reserve Project - continued

project of that size, the neighborhood concerns and oppositions at the start of the project were immense and required extensive education as to the history of the Property, planning policies and principles for smart growth (such as wildlife corridors/open space/clustering/buffers), and then presenting the proposals. The Ward 2 office was instrumental in working through neighborhood concerns to ensure that the City remains on-track in providing affordable, infill housing within the City limits.

Collaborators: City of Tucson Ward 2, City of Tucson PDSO, Silverado Hills III, High 40 Subdivision, Safeway, Tucson Metro Chamber, Southern Arizona Home Builders Association, Metropolitan Pima Alliance, La Mariposa, Rick Engineering, Meritage Homes and Lazarus & Silvyn, PC

The January 8th Memorial



On January 8, 2011, nineteen people were shot by a lone gunman as they and other attendees gathered outside to speak with then-Congresswoman and Survivor Gabrielle Giffords at the “Congress on your Corner” event in northwest Tucson. Six people died, and 13 were wounded that day. In response to this tragedy, Tucson’s January 8th Foundation (Foundation), a non-profit organization, formed locally in 2011 to complete a permanent memorial to the January 8, 2011 tragedy, collaborated with the public, private and non-profit stakeholders, and project teams in all phases—planning, design and construction—of this project. Our community came together on a shared vision, and the January 8th Memorial (“Embrace”) was built to commemorate the victims, their families, first responders, medical personnel, community organizations and the citizens of Pima County, and show unity in the face of tragedy. The January 8th Memorial is located west of the Pima County Historic Courthouse at 115 N. Church

Street, in the El Presidio Plaza, the heart of downtown Tucson. Memorial supporters faced many challenges—funding, location, historic and cultural resources preservation, COVID-19 pandemic interruptions and more—and overcame them successfully through collaboration with stakeholders—survivors, families, individuals and the community and public-private partnerships.

Collaborators: January 8th Memorial Foundation, Pima County Board of Supervisors, Pima County Administration, City of Tucson Mayor & Council, City of Tucson Manager’s Office, Pima County Facilities Management, Pima County Sustainability and Conservation Office, Chee Salette, Durazo Construction, Chasse Building Team, CAID Industries, Lloyd Construction, Tucson Electric Power

Kino South Sports Complex

The Kino South Sports Field Complex represents the best that Pima County and the Tucson metropolitan area have to offer. Its origins lie with the desire of local citizens to have a high-quality, multi-sport complex capable of supporting local programs and hosting regional and national events. Its construction is the result of a highly collaborative effort between Pima County, the McGann & Associates design team, the Haydon Building Corporation, and other stakeholders. It is a facility that speaks to what is possible when there is a vision and a will to achieve excellence in the Tucson community. The Kino South Sports Complex includes twelve (12) lighted, high-quality, natural turf, multi-sport fields. It also includes a concession building, locker rooms, restrooms, shaded outdoor picnic areas, and other amenities that support events both large and small. The complex has hosted sporting events drawing teams from across North America and it will continue to be an important and highly valued resource for many decades to come. The Kino South Sports Complex is indeed “the best in the West.” The most unique element of the Kino South Sports Complex is its ability to be a catalyst for future community growth and economic development.



Collaborators: Pima County Project Management Office, Kino Stadium District, McGann & Associates, GLHN Architects & Engineers, Swaim Associates Architects, Haydon Building Corporation, Tucson Electric Power, Pima County Wastewater, Tucson Water, Pima County Facilities and City of Tucson Department of Transportation

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MPA Common Ground Finalists - continued



Pima County Development Services Fee Revision

Pima County Development Services worked with stakeholders to devise a new methodology that would benefit both the fee-paying industry and cover costs of services. An equitable and predictable fee schedule not only helps determine whether a project is feasible but also adds needed predictability. Pima County determined the appropriate fees based on the financial health of the department, and cost of providing services to customers, rather than automatic annual fee increases. This method allows for the sound management of the departments and helps facilitate economic development. This novel approach to the new fee schedule demonstrates its potential benefits to the community by keeping building

fees in check while covering the cost of services.

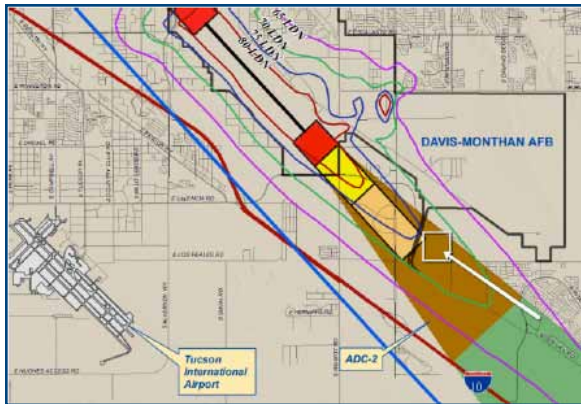
Collaborators: Pima County Development Services, Metropolitan Pima Alliance, Southern Arizona Home Builders Association, The Planning Center and Lazarus & Silvyn, P.C.

The Refinery at the UA Tech Park at the Bridges



The UA Tech Park at The Bridges will soon be home to a dynamic community of technology companies and University of Arizona units. The new building is named “The Refinery” because of its proximity to the talent and bright minds that can be mined from the University of Arizona. The University of Arizona is planning on utilizing 50% providing one central hub for innovation commercialization activities stemming from the University. This will be a place for invention development and product refinement. This will attract new business to the region and allow students to test-drive careers through internships and research collaborations. The Refinery brings with it, new jobs, new homes, new businesses and new opportunities for both the surrounding neighborhoods and for the region. The possibilities are endless when given the right environment to thrive.

Collaborators: UA Executive President, UA Tech Launch Arizona, UA Research Innovation & Impact, City of Tucson – Ward 5, City of Tucson Mayor, UA Defense & Security, UA Communications, Arizona Board of Regents, Pima County Administrator, The Boyer Company, Swaim Associates, Ltd. Architects AIA, CORE Construction, Tucson Police Department, CORE Construction, UA Planning Design & Construction, Tech Parks Arizona, CBRE Group, Pueblo Gardens Neighborhood and Western Hills Neighborhood



REPI Easement Program: ADC-2

This program is to improve the safety for Davis-Monthan Air Force Base (DMAFB) arrivals and departures, the safety of employees and citizens that are active and work in the area affected by the airport departure corridor and help sustain economic development and use existing infrastructure while creating consensus between the Federal Government Department of Defense, Pima County, and Private Sector owners which are affected by the ADC. The program creates an easement and limits land use yet still allows significant development of smaller industrial uses that are acutely needed and under supplied in the Metropolitan Tucson market. Moreover, this program has been tested and successfully accomplished between the DMAFB, Pima County and a private property owner. DMAFB partnered with the County to pursue grant funding for military installation encroachment prevention under the federal Readiness Environmental Protection Integration

(REPI) program. The REPI program is administered by the Department of Defense and was created to prevent, remove/mitigate incompatible land uses that restrict training, testing and operations of military installations, which can improve opportunities for mission growth.

Collaborators: Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Pima County Real Property and Valbridge Property Advisors

***Congratulations
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Finalists***



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Jeff Gereke

Terry Klipp

Derrick Sinclair

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MPA Common Ground Finalists - continued

Town of Marana Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2020-2030



The Town of Marana Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2020 - 2030 was the result of a community focused planning effort that sought to engage as many Marana residents as possible, understand their vision for the community's parks, and chart a course for the development of a vibrant and diverse park system over the next decade. The planning process was predicated on a "listen first" approach where Marana residents were engaged and then a plan was prepared that was consistent with the community's vision. The plan includes a new community center, an aquatic facility, two new district parks, a community sports field complex and a new trail and linear park development. The approved Master Plan is bold and ambitious and reflective of the Town's goal of being a community where people want to live and where businesses want to locate.

Collaborators: Marana Parks & Recreation, McGann & Associates, Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists, Marana Unified School District, Continental Ranch Little League, Marana Citizens Forum, Continental Ranch Little League, Marana Little League, Marana Marlins, AYSO and Marana Senior Center

Tres Rios WRF Biogas Cleaning and Utilization Project



The Tres Rios Biogas Cleaning Facility represents the first renewable natural gas (RNG) production facility in southern Arizona and partners with Southwest Gas for distribution of a sustainable fuel source. The new facility will receive all the biogas currently routed to the plant's flares and process the biogas to remove moisture and impurities, then compress the cleaned biogas to the proper pressure. Once compressed, the pipeline will deliver the cleaned biogas to the Southwest Gas Pipeline adjacent to the Tres Rios Water Reclamation Facility. This new facility is reliable, low maintenance, easy to operate, and automated using Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition features. Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) RNG biogas production will achieve >98% methane purity while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and eliminating the unsustainable practice of flaring biogas to the atmosphere. Pima County is putting the Renewable Fuels Standard program to use for the benefit of our citizens and revenues from the sale of the renewable fuel credits will be used for

offsetting operational costs and postpone future rate increases thereby benefiting sewer users.

Collaborators: Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department, Southwest Gas, Greeley & Hansen Environmental Engineers, Desert Archeology, The Ashton Company, Bartlett & West and DMT Clear Glass Solutions

Tucson Convention Center



The Tucson Convention Center renovation is a multi-jurisdictional project involving a multitude of designers, stakeholders, contractors, and utilities, providing the Tucson Convention Center and the Greater Tucson area renovated interiors and exterior, a new meeting room expansion suite, two new parking garages, a new hotel, and restored historic landscape. Valued at \$65 million, the TCC Capital Improvement Project will pay dividends to the city in upgraded functionality to the many members of the trade show, entertainment, and general Tucson communities that utilize the space. In renovating and expanding the TCC, the partners involved in this project are creating a larger, more beautiful, and more functional space in which to host conferences, conventions, celebrations, and more.

Collaborators: Rio Nuevo, City of Tucson Mayor's Office, City of Tucson Manager's Office, City of Tucson Planning & Development Services, City of Tucson Parks and Recreation, ASM Global, TCC Today, Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation, Visit Tucson, City of Tucson Ward 6, HSL Properties, Swaim Associates, Sundt Construction, Concord General Contracting, Ryan Companies, Lloyd Construction, ARC Studios, Poster Mirto McDonald, Aqua Design, GLHN Architects & Engineers, Grenier Engineering, Technology Plus, Eglin+Bresler Architects, BWS Architects, Tucson Electric Power and Ralph Applebaum Associates



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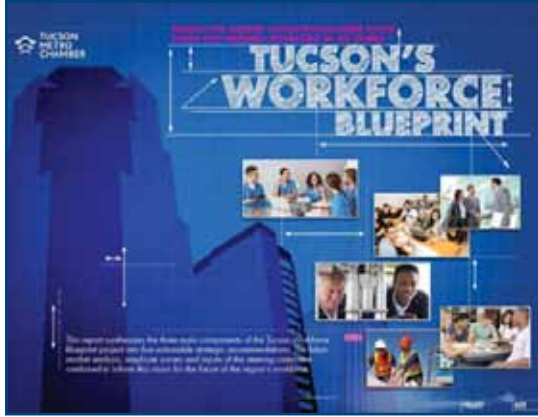
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MPA Common Ground Finalists - continued

Tucson Metro Chamber Workforce Blueprint



The Tucson Metro Chamber commissioned the Workforce Blueprint Initiative to enable a regional approach to the issues associated with the region's workforce and the talent development ecosystem. While the Chamber is not a direct provider of education or workforce development services, this initiative is intended to leverage the Chamber's role as the voice of business and position the Chamber as the "air traffic controller" for workforce and career-driven education efforts in the region to address current and future employer hiring needs. The objectives are to inventory current workforce assets and roadblocks, develop targeted strategies, and build partnerships and structures that will deliver value for years to come.

Collaborators: Tucson Metro Chamber, Center for the Future of Arizona, United Way, Pima Association of Governments, Pima County, City of Tucson, Sundt Construction, Pima Community College, Arizona Technology Council, Tucson Medical Center, Nextrio, The Partnership for Workforce Innovation and Employer focus groups and employer survey participants

University of Arizona Center for Innovation at Oro Valley



Building on the life science momentum happening within the Town of Oro Valley, community and business leaders came together to form a non-profit board to develop a bioscience focused incubator. The collaborative group of business, industry, education, government, non-profit organizations came together to raise funds and strategically planning what this support for new businesses would look like. The business community's desire was to have an incubator that could take Oro Valley's emerging biosciences industry to the next level. The University of Arizona Center for Innovation at Oro Valley (UACI) has officially opened its doors. Establishing a bioscience-focused incubator fills a critical gap and is pivotal in extending the reach of our world-class research and innovation far beyond our campus to benefit society at large. UACI is providing support to startup companies by connecting them to the resources of the University of

Arizona and the Tucson community. The new facility in Oro Valley is located in an area where some of the most valuable bioindustry leaders in the state of Arizona are located, which provides the startups the opportunity to connect to those businesses for a successful launch and expansion.

Collaborators: UA Executive President, Tech Parks Arizona, Icagen, AzCERT, Accelerate Diagnostics, BFL Construction, Hecker and Pew, AskBio, Inc., Desert Angels, Pima County, Town of Oro Valley, Roche Tissue Diagnostics, Bayer, UA Ventures Capital Fund, BioIndustry of Southern Arizona, Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce, Sun Corridor and UA Center for Innovation

Valencia Road Extension, Houghton Road to Old Spanish Trail



The Valencia Road extension was the result of a Public-Private Partnership between Rocking K Development, a subsidiary of Diamond Ventures, and Pima County. Psomas led the planning, design and construction management of the project, while KE&G Construction, Inc. (KE&G) was responsible for the construction of nearly three miles of new two-lane roadway, including a new bridge, a grade control structure, and bank protection at the Pantano Wash. This new road also required extensive acquisition of private property and State Land easements. Important project elements included soil cement bank protection, native landscaping and water harvesting, bike lanes, and five miles of game fence. The project also included extensive utility conflict identification with gas and telecommunications. Additionally, the design and construction teams worked extensively with the Vail School District to coordinate the concurrent construction of Mica Mountain High School to ensure that turn lanes, sidewalks, and other access improvements were

ready for the start of the 2020-21 school year. The new Valencia Road provides better access to many important destinations, including Mica Mountain High School, Raytheon, the University of Arizona Science and Tech Park, Tucson International Airport, and Rita Ranch.

Collaborators: Diamond Ventures, Pima County Department of Transportation, KE&G Construction, Vail Unified School District, Psomas, Consultant Engineering, Inc., Structural Concepts, Novak Environmental, Ninyo & Moore and CMG Drainage Engineering



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2021 Resilience Projects and Programs: COVID-19 Response

OVSafeSteps



In the spring of 2020, the Town of Oro Valley, like many communities, faced a serious problem of small businesses shutting down due to COVID-19 and local residents staying home and not shopping locally because of quarantines and social distancing. Town leaders knew they had to help small business owners quickly to prevent wholesale closings and permanent damage to Oro Valley's economic infrastructure. OVSafeSteps was put together with unusual speed thanks to a coalition of business groups and outside government agencies that worked closely with the Town of Oro Valley to develop and implement the program. To date, over \$500,000 in aid has been distributed to more than 180 small businesses, many of which were in danger of closing permanently without financial assistance. OVSafeSteps helped develop closer relationships between the Town of Oro Valley, the Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce and local business owners.

Most importantly, OVSafeSteps led to a new culture of trust between businesses and local government.

Collaborators: Town of Oro Valley, Town of Oro Valley Mayor, Town Council, Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Communications Administrator, Town Economic Development, Town Administrative Services, Town Chief Information Officer, Town of Oro Valley Police Chief, Town Legal Services, Town Clerk, The Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce, Gordley Group, Gilbert Davidson, Town of Gilbert, City of Mesa, City of Chandler, Pima County Department of Health, Arizona Department of Health, Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Arizona Commerce Authority, University of Arizona Eller College of Management, US Small Business Administration and Office of US Senator Kyristen Sinema

Rapid Response to the Pandemic



2020 was a challenging year for everyone including the downtown business community. From the pandemic, to calls for social justice, health and safety regulations and rioting; the businesses were faced with many obstacles and were struggling to stay alive. The Downtown Tucson Partnership (DTP) was on the frontline responding to the needs of the businesses and the community at large. Innovative programs like the DTP Gift Card Incentive program, infused \$308,000 directly into downtown businesses in two short months. This program was used as a model and emulated by other downtown organizations throughout the nation. Our progressive partnership agreement with Pima County resulted in creative re-granting programs like the Outdoor Café and Downtown Rebound grant programs with a total of

72 grants and approximately \$200,000 awarded to downtown businesses. Additional funds were made available to acquire and install 30 public hand sanitation stations, 12 touchless solar-powered trash compactors, eight water filling stations and 158 street trees tight-wrapped in white lights. With guidance from the Pima County Health Department, we encouraged a safe reopening of Downtown Tucson through the Ready for You program. We encouraged downtown businesses to employ the highest level of health and safety standards, thereby earning them certification through the Ready for You program. We assisted with the distribution of free PPE to all downtown businesses. We helped to select the site and provided marketing for a free COVID-19 testing site located downtown. Throughout it all, our downtown businesses have been an inspiration to the community with their ability to pivot, adapt and survive.

Collaborators: Pima County Administration, Bourn Companies, Downtown Merchants & Retail Council, Downtown Tucson Apartments & Presidio Tucson, Easter & Stout Consulting, LLC, The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 570, Hilton & Myers Advertising, Holualoa Companies, HSL Properties, DTP Board, Hecker & Pew, PLLC, Paradigm Laboratories, Pima County Health Department, Pima County Office of Emergency Management, Tucson Electric Power, Rio Nuevo, International Downtown Association (IDA), City of Tucson Department of Transportation & Mobility, City of Tucson Real Estate Division, Pima County Communications Office, Downtown Development Corporation, Pima County Grants Management & Innovation and Tucson Industrial Development Authority

ROCKING

Designed by Nature



Valencia Road Extension Houghton Road to Old Spanish Trail Gateway to the Rincon Valley & Vail



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Metropolitan Pima Alliance

COMMON GROUND AWARD FINALISTS

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by regional collaboration and
working from shared purpose to find
common ground, values and goals*

Valencia Road Project Partners:

City of Tucson
Diamond Ventures, Inc.
KE&G
Pima County

Psomas
Residents of Rincon Valley
Vail School District

The following are some of the advocates for the completion of the eastern section of Valencia Road

Arizona State Land Department
City of Tucson
Congressional District 2
Davis Monthan Air Force Base
Pima County

Rincon Institute
Rincon Valley Fire District
Saguaro National Park – East
Sonoran Institute
Southern Arizona Homebuilders

Sun Corridor
Tucson Metro Chamber
University of Arizona Tech Park
Vail Unified School District

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2021 Resilience Projects and Programs: COVID-19 Response - continued

Remote Tucson



Inspired by similar programs around the nation and workforce trends related to COVID-19, Startup Tucson and a number of collaborators piloted the regional economic development initiative “Remote Tucson” in Winter 2020. Remote Tucson worked to entice talented individuals employed in high-paying remote work positions outside of Tucson to permanently relocate to the area while continuing to work for their same employers. The project focused on building a comprehensive online platform that invited program candidates to discover the attractiveness of our City as a new home at a time when trends were showing that because of COVID-19 talented professionals were looking to leave major metropolitan hubs in favor of mid-sized cities like Tucson. The framework of the program was designed to attract professionals with strong reasons to stay in Tucson long-term after their initial move and get involved with our community. From the 200 very qualified applicants, 10 finalists were selected that represent mixed ethnic diversity and include both young families and seasoned professionals. The

initial success of the Remote Tucson program was made possible entirely through local collaboration and Startup Tucson hopes to open another round of applications in 2021.

Collaborators: Startup Tucson, City of Tucson, Tucson Young Professionals, Tucson Electric Power, Cox Communications, Visit Tucson, Bourn Companies, Marshall Foundation, Pima County, Fayth Hospitality Group, La Suprema Coworking, Sun Corridor Inc., Rio Nuevo, University of Arizona Eller College of Management MBA/Masters Digital Marketing and University of Arizona Alumni Association

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A modern office interior featuring a large living wall on the left, a long grey sofa with a wooden planter box on top, and several round tables with white chairs. The ceiling has a wooden slat design with recessed lighting. The floor is covered in a colorful geometric patterned carpet.

Congratulations to all Common Ground Award Nominees!

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to all the Common Ground finalists: thank you for
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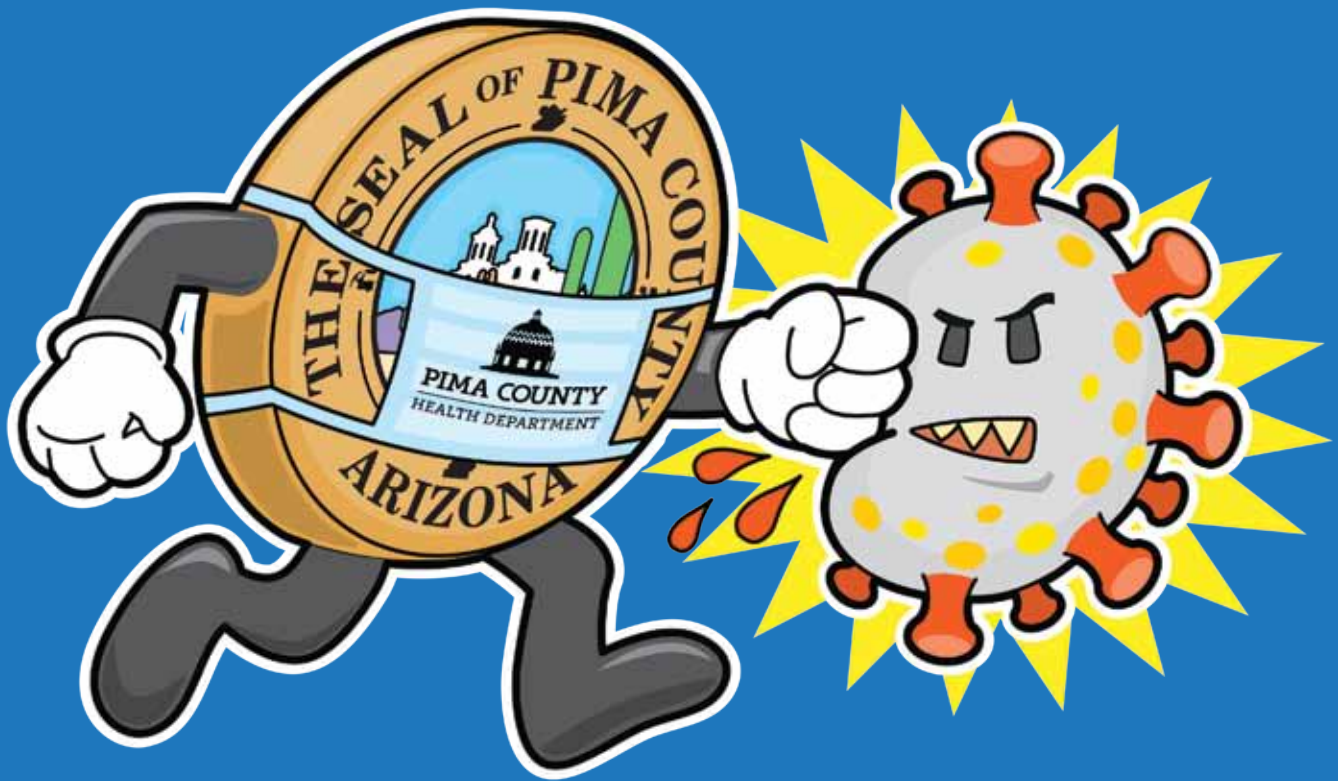
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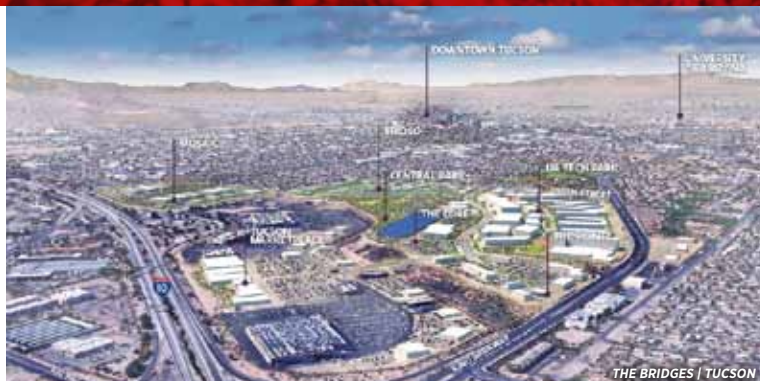
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Congratulations to the Valencia Road Extension project team, and to all the 2021 Common Ground Award Finalists



CONGRATULATIONS!

We congratulate MPA and all of the Common Ground finalists.

Here's to a brighter future for our region!

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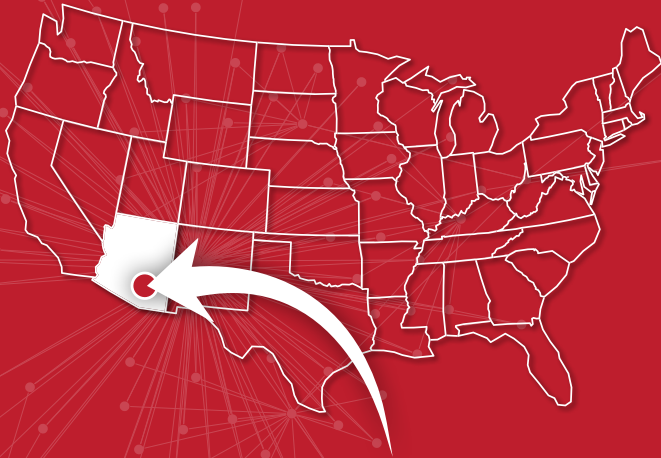
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The Houghton Reserve Project • January 8th Memorial • Kino South Sports Complex • OVSafeSteps
Pima County Development Services Fee Revision • Rapid Response to Pandemic
The Refinery at the UA Tech Park at the Bridges • Remote Tucson • REPI Easement Program: ADC-2
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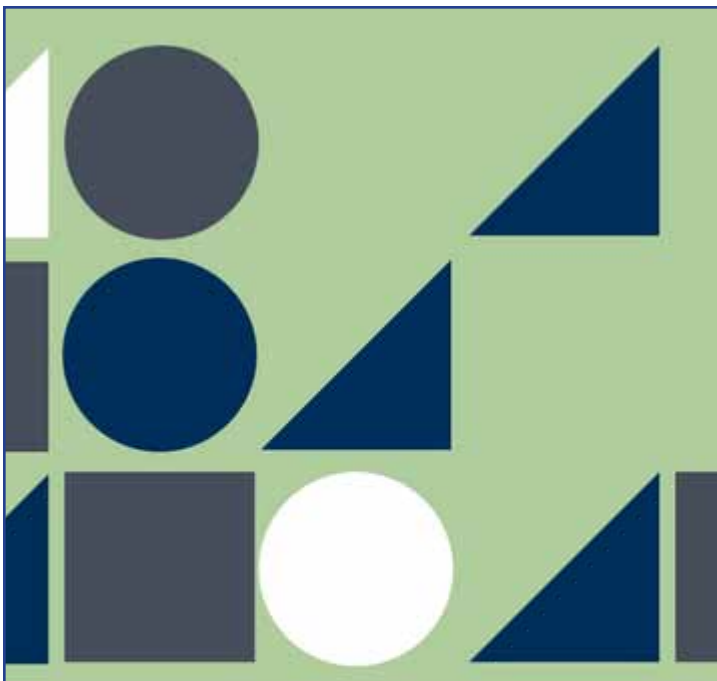
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