September 15, 2014

Chairman and Members
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Pima County Administrator's Office
130 W Congress Street
Tucson AZ 85701

CC: Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator
Subject: Water Harvesting for Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond Proposal

Dear Chairman and Members,

As the water harvesting and sustainability leader in our community, Watershed Management Group (WMG) would like to express our support for the Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond Proposal developed by the Living Streets Alliance.

Sidewalks and safe street crossings are essential for a walkable community. At the same time, our walkways are not comfortable or viable routes without shade. The best way to grow shade along our streets is to use green infrastructure – basins and swales that harvest stormwater to irrigate native trees. WMG has worked with Living Streets Alliance to include cost estimates for water harvesting landscapes within the proposal. Inclusion of water harvesting features will ensure the success of the proposal implementation by guaranteeing a cost-effective water supply for native shade trees while reducing demand on our city’s water supply and reducing flooding problems.

WMG has implemented a model for water harvesting pedestrian infrastructure through various projects including a project focused on Bike Boulevards. WMG is committed to partnering in the future to make this bond a success.

On behalf of WMG, I request you recommend LSA’s Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Proposal for inclusion in the upcoming Pima County bond election.

Sincerely,

Lisa Shipek
Executive Director
Watershed Management Group