



## Application for Community Enhancement Projects

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### Applicant Information

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Name: Ronni Kotwica, Palo Verde Neighborhood Association President

Address: 3230 E. Seneca St City: Tucson State: AZ Zip: 85716

Phone: 520-326-2723 Email: kotwica5@cox.net

### Project Information

Project Title: Palo Verde Neighborhood B-54 Wellsite Beautification Project

Project Location: 3330 East Farimount St

Site Ownership *(list landowners affected by the proposed project and include signed letter(s) of support from property owners)*: City of Tucson Water Department; City of Tucson Department of Transportation

### Section 1: Project Description

1. What is the project site need and how will the proposed project address this need? If this site is a previous C2E grant recipient, please explain what the added benefit will be. (Word limit = 300)

The proposed project is an urban lot containing a Tucson Water Well. The site is located within the 400-foot boundary of Christmas Wash (a street based wash system), which drains several square miles in urban Tucson and contributes to flooding problems in specific areas of the Palo Verde Neighborhood (PVNA). The project need:

- Reduce floodwater runoff from the site to Christmas Wash
- Eliminate erosion throughout B-54 Well-site
- Decrease Christmas Wash storm water flow that impacts Jones Blvd/Pima St. intersection, a common flood site, and other flood sites lower on the Wash in the neighborhood.
- Transform a barren "no man's land" into an attractive asset to the neighborhood.

#### Project Goals:

- 1) Capture and retain storm water on the B-54 Water Well Site, through passive water harvesting;
- 2) Plant native trees, shrubs and wildflowers on the site, which will green and beautify this well-site location;
- 3) Improve soil moisture and quality, and reduce soil erosion at the same time;
- 4) Select planting materials known for their natural and beneficial qualities that will attract and support diverse bird species (offering opportunities for guided plant and bird walks by PVNA);
- 5) Engage more residents in a neighborhood enhancement project through volunteerism to install the project, and come back to enjoy the site in the future, and replicate these type projects at their homes.



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### 6) Enhance quality of life in the neighborhood and Tucson.

2. Is the project site physically connected (or within 400 feet) of a designated Pima County urban wash or riparian area? Describe the connection and potential impact of the site to the surrounding area. What makes this site a priority for funding? (Word limit = 300) *(The following websites can be used to determine connections to your project site: <http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/stormwater/> or <http://gis.pima.gov/maps/mapguide/>)*

Yes, the project is within the Christmas Wash watershed. North Jones Boulevard is the primary drainage of Christmas Wash and the project (tributary streets) are between Willard and Fairmount, about 200 feet west of Jones Blvd. Stormwater runoff from Willard (south side of project) drains onto this site, as well as rainfall, and collectively contributes to flooding downstream especially in the northwest quadrant of the neighborhood. Rainwater sheets across the site creating erosion which flows into the street causing debris build up and traffic hazards.

In recent years, city development and perimeter road improvement projects have impacted the volume and drainage of storm water in the Palo Verde neighborhood. Flooding and drainage issues have a significant impact on many collector and residential streets and residences. The goal is to mitigate flood and drainage problems where possible, to use the water to improve the neighborhood for people and birds, and to increase community awareness, support and participation in developing Green Infrastructure (GI) projects. Our neighborhood is a good candidate for this program due both to a clear need for improved storm water management as well as a strong interest among neighbors in developing Green Infrastructure at the residential and neighborhood levels. The neighborhood is trying to become proactive capturing water upstream and in the flooding areas to slow the flow.

3. Tucson C2E is working to improve Tucson's quality of life, enhance ecosystems and increase biodiversity. What actions or outcomes do you anticipate this project will have on the surrounding ecosystem in support of the overall C2E program goals? *(Mark all that apply; see Additional Information document for details.)*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adding new native habitat         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improving walkability  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Controlling erosion               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increasing shade cover   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Controlling stormwater runoff     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increasing soil moisture   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decreasing energy bills           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mitigating urban heat island effects                               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhancing existing habitat        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reducing sewer & septic inputs                                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhancing neighborhood aesthetics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Reduce stormwater pollution, restore native habitat.</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Growing food                                 |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improving soil conservation       |  |

Comments: Proposed project will create a visible demonstration garden of passive water harvesting, native plants selections, and neighborhood community education.





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### Section 2: Water Resources

4. Describe water conservation practices (e.g. preventing water waste, use of appropriate watering schedules, phasing out irrigation) that will be implemented during the construction of the project and after completion the scope of work is completed? If supplemental water is needed for the project, what type(s) of water will be used and where will it come from (needed infrastructure)? (*Types of water include potable, non-potable or reclaimed, harvested and grey water.*) (Word limit = 200)

The project design includes swales, berms and basins to direct and capture rain water throughout site and retain rain water runoff. The retention basins will provide water to newly planted vegetation, with no plan for installed irrigation. A water truck will be used, as needed, to supply supplemental potable water for the first year until plants are established. In addition, tree wells will be installed with 3" PVC pipes as a supply mechanism for "Driwater" materials to enhance water percolation to the root systems.

Some potable water may be used on-site and donated by adjacent neighbors to augment the schedule set-up within this project. A regular watering schedule will be developed. Planting will be done in the fall to alleviate high water usage, then with the winter, spring, and monsoon seasonal rainwater that will be the primary source, augmented by hand watering. Mulch will be used to retain soil moisture. All plants are native/low water use. Water harvesting techniques are applied, and any hand irrigation phased out once plantings are established.

5. How does this project enhance the surrounding natural environment through improved use of onsite water resources (e.g. improved vegetation health and wildlife habitat through water capture, storage, or retention)? (Word limit = 100)

Through the use of passive water harvesting; berms, swales and native plants will transform the city well site into a flourishing desert oasis. The project will provide new wildlife habitat and create an attractive asset to the Palo Verde neighborhood that all can enjoy. Retaining the storm water run-off that flows onto the city lot from Willard St./Christmas Wash and the precipitation that falls directly on the lot, this project will greatly reduce flooding and erosion issues downstream along the Christmas Wash.

### Section 3: Community Investment

6. Describe the organizational support for this project. Include a bulleted list of individuals and organizations with each partner's role and contribution to the project identified (e.g. matching funds, project design, volunteer hours, etc.). (Word limit = 200)

PVNA B-54 Wellsite Beautification Project, 3330 E. Fairmount is sponsored by PVNA, in conjunction with Watershed Management Group (WMG). Other individuals and organizations and their roles:

- Roberta Braegelmann: PV Neighbor/C2E Committee/Volunteer labor; professional site designer
- Cate Bradley: PV Neighbor/C2E Committee/Volunteer labor; Landscape Architect/site design consultant
- Ronni Kotwica: PV Neighbor/C2E Committee/Volunteer labor; Project facilitator and coordinator



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- Kendall Kroesen: PV Neighbor/C2E Committee/Volunteer labor; Tucson Audubon Program Mgr./site design
- Aleck McKinnon: PV Neighbor/C2E Committee/Volunteer labor; site design consultant; Certified Arborist
- Tucson Water - letter of support
- Tucson Department of Transportation - letter of support
- Gary Wittwer: TDOT Landscape Architect assist with site design
- Ward 6 Council Office: supports green streets efforts in PVNA; publicity efforts
- WMG: Co-sponsored numerous past projects; provide consultation/expertise/partner
- Tucson Clean & Beautiful/Trees For Tucson: Donating 16 - 5-gallon trees
- PVNA: 20 neighbors (min)-volunteer labor/provide complimentary lunch/provide all hand tools
- Green Things Nursery (discounted/donated planting material)
- Native Seed Search (donated wildflower seeds)
- Fry's (water, orange juice, drinks, dessert)
- Subway (lunch)
- Chick-fil-A (breakfast)
- Circle K (coffee, ice, drinks)

7. Describe what kind of outreach will be conducted in cooperation with this project. This should include how your proposed project will encourage participation in the C2E program. *(Other outreach could include educating neighbors, providing volunteer opportunities, and making the project visible and accessible.)* (Word limit = 200)

- PVNA standard outreach includes a weekly e-newsletter sent through Constant Contact to 1,600+ residents/business/social service agencies in PVNA. Ward offices/City/County departments.
- Beautification project updates included in this weekly communication.
- Outreach will educate recipients of the C2E Program and check box on the Tucson Water bill.
- Site volunteers will be recruited for watering, weeding, pruning, to be educated by the C2E Committee experts.
- Media coverage regularly includes KOLD, KVOA, City Channel 12, AZ Daily Star and Tucson Weekly.
- September 2014: Annual PVNA POST mailed to over 3400 households/businesses within PVNA boundaries.
- C2E -featured article, as project planned for October 2014, a better planting time.
- The 51<sup>st</sup> Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade/Pancake Breakfast attracts hundreds of residents and media, a recruiting opportunity. Posters will promote this project and encourage participation/monetary support.
- Additional C2E Promotion: PVNA Facebook page. New PVNA Kiosk, and two Little Free Library locations.
- Catalina Magnet students/faculty/staff will be included in this project, as they are in all PVN activities.





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- Dedication ceremony when project complete
- Walking tours for residents along with birding identification walk-throughs
- Continue to identify/report graffiti to the PVNA Graffiti Abatement Committee of 20 neighbors.

8. What is the plan for maintaining the site after C2E funding has ended (who, what, when, and how)? (Word limit = 100)

For over six years, PVNA volunteers have overseen maintenance of all Back-2-Basics & Reinvestment funded projects: round-abouts, speed tables, Neighborhood Leadership Project in conjunction with WMG at Catalina HS and stormwater retention basins along Camilla Blvd, a joint effort with PVNA, WMG, and ProNeighborhoods. A resident certified arborist provides volunteer tree maintenance. These volunteer services will be expanded to include the B-54 Wellsite project. Adjacent neighbors will be recruited for the on-going 'eyes & ears' of the project.

### Section 4: Project Site Map and Design Diagram

9. The site map and/or design diagram can be submitted as one or more graphics. These graphics can be hand drawn or created with computer software (*see previous application examples*). *We strongly recommend you seek professional consultation with an earthworks or similar company to help with this process and ensure your design best fits your project site. This map/design must include:*

- Identification of the major crossroads and project boundaries (including property ownership)
- Proximity to adjacent wash(es) and/or riparian area(s), including distance (information can be found at: <http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/stormwater/> or <http://gis.pima.gov/maps/mapguide/>)
- Site accessibility information (public access points and project visibility)
- Site plan design diagram that clearly identifies primary proposed features (vegetation, earthworks, curbcuts, etc.)

### C2E Agreement

If your project is awarded funding, your group agrees to carry out the following tasks...

- Complete the proposed project within the time period laid out in the Application Timeline and Project Description.
- Assist C2E with creating and installing an interpretive project sign at the project site; funds for this sign will be provided by Tucson C2E and should not be included in your grant budget.
- Submit quarterly reports and follow reimbursement procedures as outlined by C2E.
- Provide site photo updates from a consistent photo point monitoring location.
- Submit a final reimbursement and annual report once all work is completed.
- Make your application package available for public review.



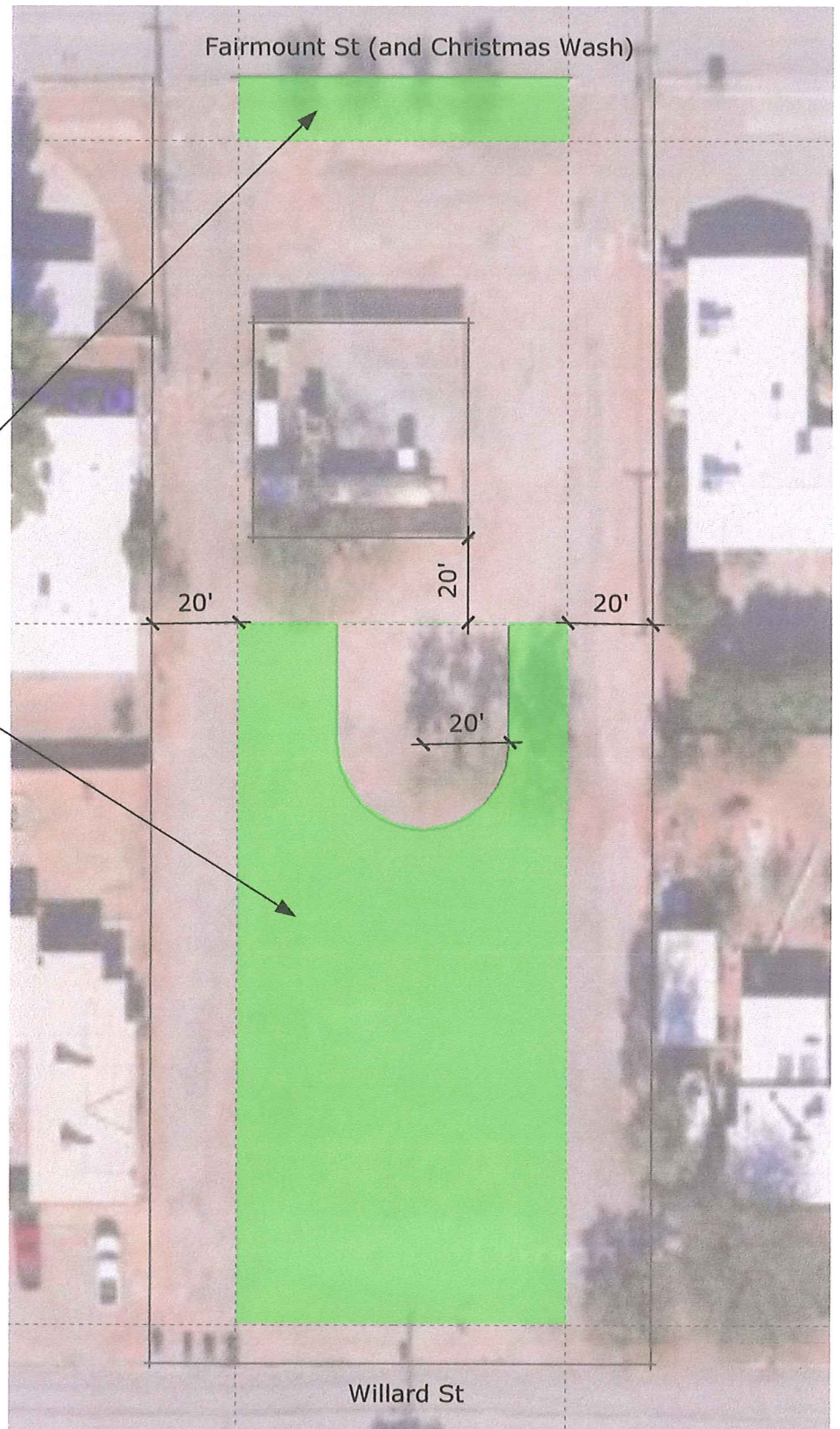
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*Ronnie Kehn*  
Signature

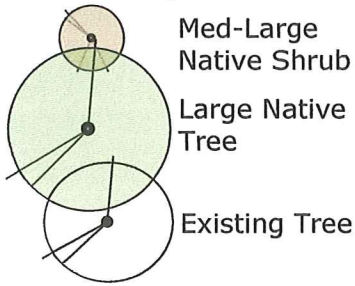
*4-10-14*  
Date

Available restoration  
area based on  
Tucson Water  
constraints





## Plant Symbols



Raised berm to retain and direct runoff

Utility truck pull through area

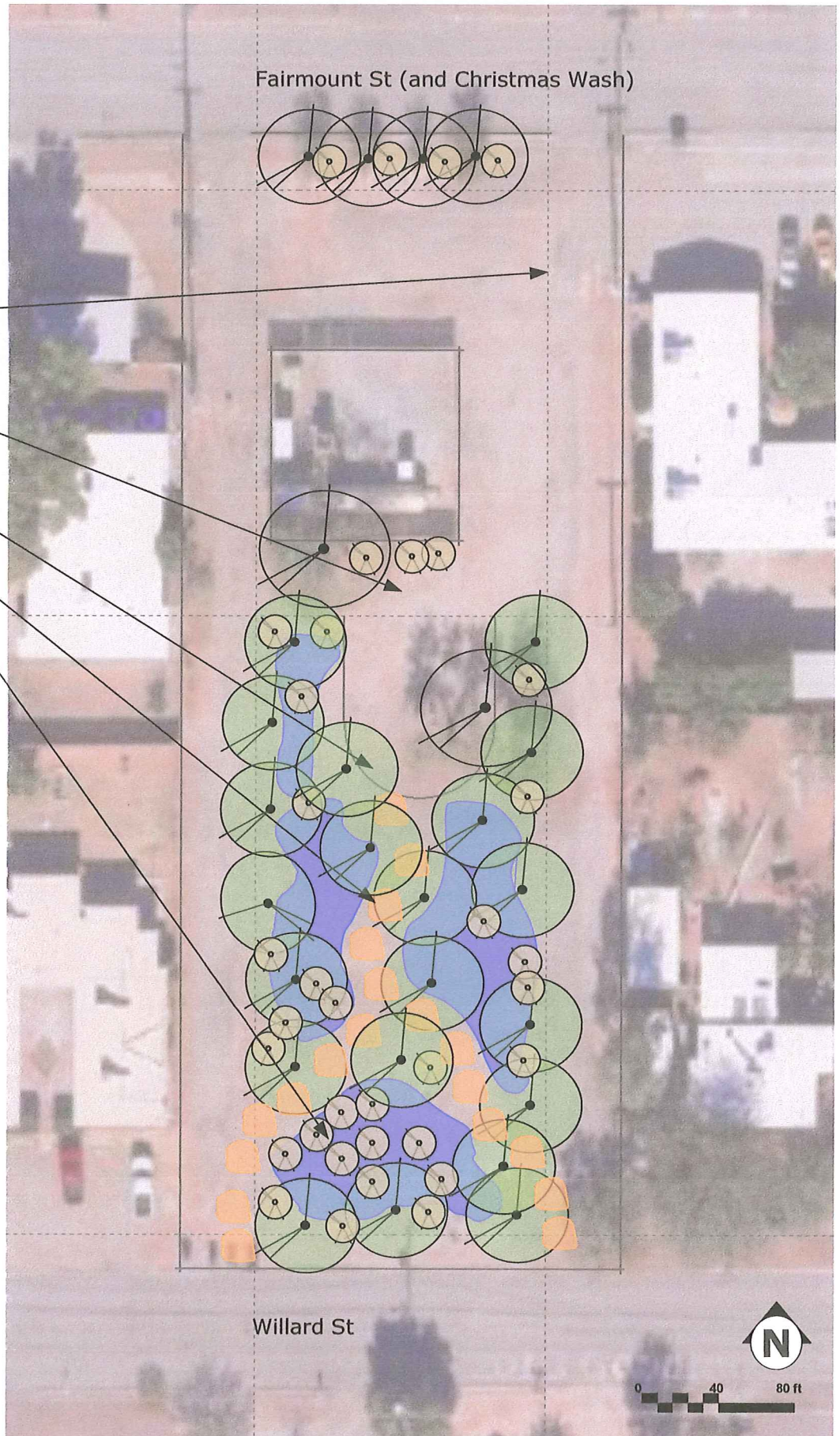
Gathering Area with Shaded Benches

Raised Access Path

Upland Creosote Forest Area

## Notes:

- Water harvesting features to capture and infiltrate on-site runoff around planting areas.
- Organic mulch to be used in water harvesting infiltration areas.
- 5 gal trees and 1 gal shrubs to ease establishment.
- Use of occasional water truck and initial driwater to irrigate new plantings 1st year.
- Restoration seed mix to fill in throughout water harvesting basin areas.
- Excavated soil used to raise pathways and smoothed across downstream non-planting areas to assist with reducing erosion and increasing runoff retention in restoration area







**Proposed C2E Site - AERIAL CLOSE-UP - highlighted by RED Rectangle.**





Palo Verde Neighborhood, 1.17 square-mile, with the proposed **PVNA C2E B-54 Water Well Beautification Project designated in yellow**. The neighborhood is bordered by Speedway Boulevard to the south, Grant Road to the north, Country Club Road to the west, and Alverson Way to the east. Blue designates the Christmas Wash, and un-named wash east of, which feeds into Christmas Wash at Pima Street.

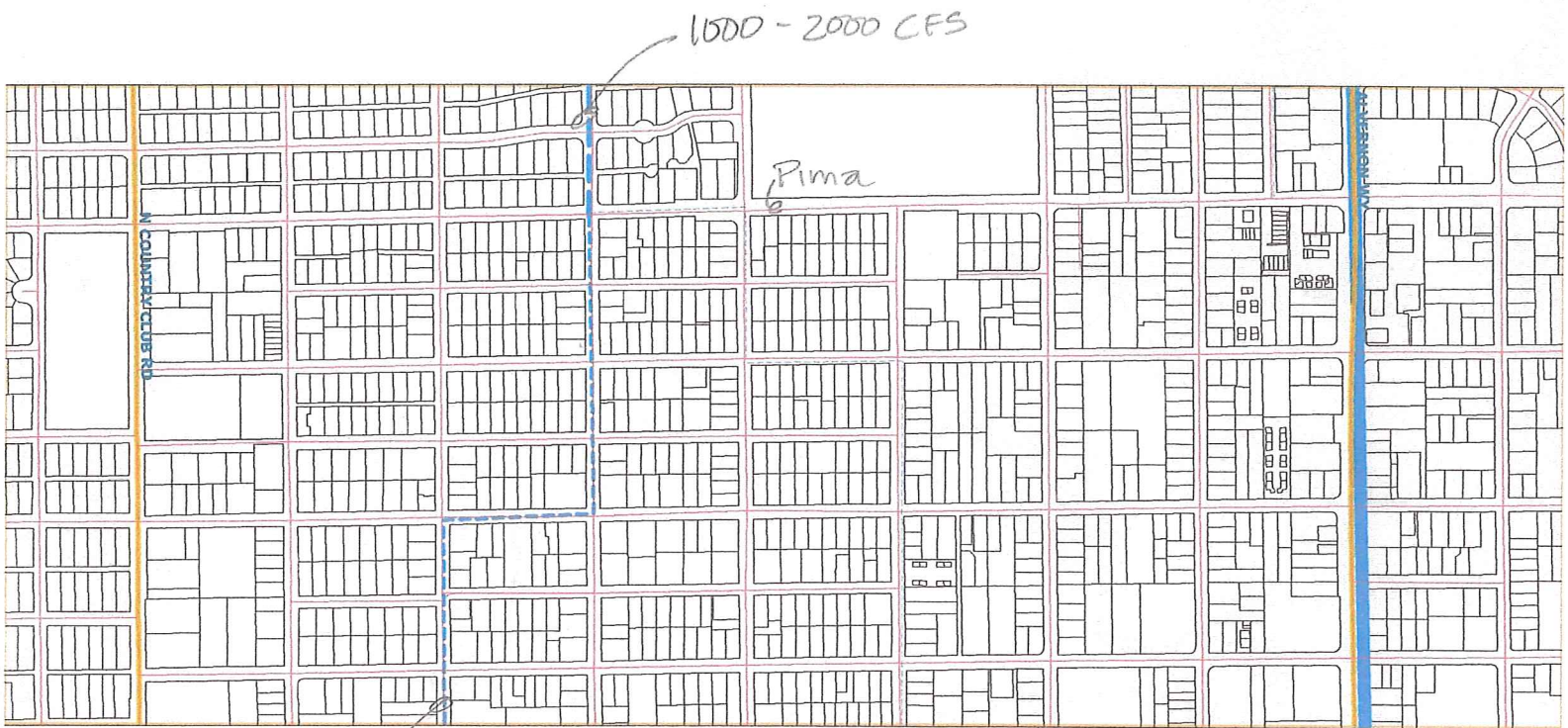
Green Streets Projects - **Purple**: WMG/Neighborhood Leadership Project/ProNeighborhoods projects in place, **Turquoise**: WMG/Ward 6/PVNA - set to install.



# Christmas Wash



# Christmas Wash



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## Application for Community Enhancement Projects

Complete the budget template below within this document or in an excel file. For more instructions, refer to the Additional Information Document.

Name of fiscal agent: Palo Verde Neighborhood Association - Sally Miller, Treasurer

Email: [amillertough@cox.net](mailto:amillertough@cox.net)

Phone: 520-322-5000

Item	Description	C2E Cost	Match
Direct Environmental Benefits			
Water supplies (conveyance, irrigation systems, etc)	Dri water cartons; initial + 1 replacement 200 @ \$1.95	\$ 390	
Irrigation	Donated water-neighbors/3" PVC from TDOT/Water truck mitigation	\$ 600	\$ 400
Professional staff time for design/implementation	Feature design/planning/workshop site prep/installation	\$ 2,250	
WMG/C2E Committee time for prep/design/project	Feature design/planning/workshop site prep	\$1,000	\$1,045
Contractors/labor to do project work	Excavator for pre workshop days install	\$ 800	
Site Materials (hardscape/structures)	Rock/boulders/mulch/gravel plus donations	\$ 550	\$ 400
Volunteer time for installation	2 day: 16 hrs x 20 vol - 320 hrs @ \$20.08/hr		\$ 6,426
Additional volunteer time	80 volunteer hrs @ \$20.08/hr for maintenance/water/abatement		\$ 1,606
Plants	Donate: 4-15gal trees @ \$160; 15-5gal trees @\$240; Buy: 40 plants	\$ 300	\$ 400
Restoration seed	2# donated		\$ 200
Earthworks	Paint, caution flagging, misc materials	\$ 50	
	Total	\$ 5,940	\$ 10,477
Ancillary Project Needs (not to exceed 20% of total budget)			
Tools	All tools -borrowed/provided by neighborhood 20 tools @ 16hrsx\$1		\$ 320
	Total	\$ -0-	\$ 320
Outreach/Education			
Workday supplies	Miscellaneous items needed-donated by neighbors/PVNA		\$ 150
Donations for tours/educational aspects	Miscellaneous donations from neighbors		\$ 200
	Total	\$ -0-	\$ 350
	ProjectTotal	\$ 5,940	\$ 11,147

## Section Six: Project Planning Timeline Template

Tasks	2014		2015		Date Completed
	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	
Finalize project design; Approval by C2E; Set dates of install	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Publicity: July 4 Parade; Annual PVNA POST; Weekly e-news; Kiosk/Little Free Libraries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Finalized work plan approved by Tucson Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Finalize donations: trees, food; drinks; continue recruitment volunteers, tools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
1 <sup>st</sup> -Quarterly report and reimbursements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Continue publicity through Ward 6, WMG, media		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Misc. Blue Stake		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Order: shrub/rock/gravel for work weekend		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Order: excavator/water truck for Friday before work weekend		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Pre-project pictures; during project; during winter rains		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Finalize: volunteer labor force, food, tools, delivery of materials		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Work Weekend		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Quarterly report and reimbursement		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Water maintenance for newly planted plantings			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Finish placement of boulders, stumps, newly procured gravel; pictures during rains			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Design, install project sign(s)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Quarterly report, final reimbursement			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Set-up: Refreshments, media, celebration/ribbon cutting, tours, volunteer recognition				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Oversee watering, maintenance, pictures, dri-water replacements				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Final report				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Additional maintenance by volunteers, clean-up/graffiti abatement				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Standard project tasks have been included above. Please elaborate as necessary and add additional tasks that will be important to the success of the overall project timeline and goals.





CITY OF  
TUCSON

TUCSON WATER  
DEPARTMENT

April 8, 2014

Ronni Kotwica  
Palo Verde Neighborhood Association President  
Alvernon-Grant Initiative Facilitator  
Neighborhood Support Network Core Member  
[kotwica5@cox.net](mailto:kotwica5@cox.net)

Re: 2014 Community Enhancement Project Application

Dear Ms. Kotwica:

On behalf of Tucson Water, the owner of the well site located at 3330 E Fairmount Street, I am pleased to write this letter in support of Palo Verde Neighborhood Association's (PVNA) application for a 2014 Community Enhancement Project grant.

PVNA's project stands to enhance not only the condition of our well site and the immediately adjacent streets but the larger neighborhood as well. At present, stormwater runoff from Willard Street enters our property from the south and sheets across its bare surface in two main streams. This allows a substantial amount of stormwater – and the soil that it picks up as it passes over the site – to empty onto Fairmount Street. From there, the water continues downstream through the neighborhood until it eventually flows into Christmas Wash or its unnamed tributary. By capturing a significant amount of stormwater onsite, PVNA's project will be able to mitigate soil erosion and prevent some of the flooding that the neighborhood currently experiences with even moderate rainfall. Furthermore, the shade, seating, and habitat improvements created in the process will turn what is essentially an empty dirt lot into a pleasant and educational community asset.

Beyond simply crafting a project that achieves these worthwhile ends, PVNA has gone to great lengths to respect our requirements for the site. PVNA has also committed to maintain the improvements that this grant would allow them to make. Their excellent record of maintenance at existing stormwater mitigation and water harvesting sites at Catalina High School and elsewhere in Palo Verde neighborhood gives me great confidence in their ability to do so.

Again, I am pleased to be able to write in support of Palo Verde Neighborhood Association's application.

Sincerely,

Jeff B. Biggs  
Interim Deputy Director

JBB/lr





CITY OF  
TUCSON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION

Via email: [candicer@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:candicer@cals.arizona.edu)

April 2, 2014

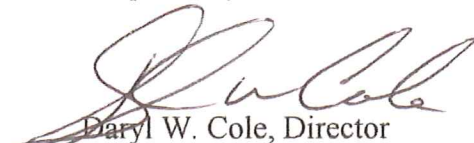
C2E Community Advisory Board  
C/O Ms. Candice Rupprecht  
350 N Campbell Ave  
Tucson, Arizona 85719

RE: C2E Grant B-54, Water Well Project

Dear Ms. Rupprecht,

The City of Tucson Department of Transportation has been working with the Palo Verde Neighborhood in the preparation of the Grant submittal for the Water Well Project, and we are in full support of this effort. While the majority of the work will be on the well site itself, we acknowledge that some work may occur within the City Right of Way. This project has potential to mitigate and reduce some of the runoff that floods down stream of the Christmas Wash. If you have any questions please contact Gary Wittwer at 837-6618 in our department.

Respectfully,



Daryl W. Cole, Director  
Department of Transportation

DWC/GW/rw

cc: Carlos de Leon, Deputy Director  
Gary Wittwer, TDOT Landscape Architect  
Ronnie Kotwica, Palo Verde Neighborhood

