

## Environmental Planning Advisory Committee (EPAC) Meeting Summary

Summary of 9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 7, 2026, Meeting

**Full Video Recording (YouTube):** <https://www.youtube.com/live/NQbR8QfNMa8>

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### ATTENDEES

#### Voting Members

Adrianna Castro, The Chamber of Southern Arizona  
Aidelis Moyet, Town of Sahuarita Alternate  
Alejandra Fraijo Arce, Kimley-Horn  
Becca Cammack, Tucson Airport Authority  
Christina McVie, Tucson Bird Alliance  
Howard Myers, SAHBA Alternate  
Jared Suydam, Pima County  
Josue Licea, City of South Tucson  
Kimberly Baeza, Pima County  
Luke Cole, Sonoran Institute  
Lydia Barker, City of Tucson  
Michael Garcia, Town of Oro Valley  
Paula Bluemer, Town of Marana  
Chad Lapora, City of Tucson  
Alexander Ball, Oro Valley Citizen Rep  
David McAllister Romo, Pima County Citizen Rep

#### Non-Voting Members

David Mack, ADOT  
Katie Predick, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum  
Jessica Rodriguez, City of Tucson

#### Presenters

Kris Gade, Pima County  
Jenny Neeley, Pima County

#### Staff Lead

Dustin Fitzpatrick, Environmental Planning Administrator

### 1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was conducted in a virtual format and called to order at 9:31 a.m.

### 2. In-kind Form

PAG Environmental Planning Administrator, Dustin Fitzpatrick, informed participants of the in-kind form, and members were asked to confirm their estimated in-kind time for the meeting.

### **3. Approval of EPAC February 5, 2026, Meeting Summary**

**Action:** A motion to approve the Feb. 5, 2026, meeting summary was made by Christina McVie, Tucson Bird Alliance, and was seconded by Paula Bluemer, Town of Marana. The motion passed unanimously.

### **4. Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan**

**Video Timestamp:** [8:01](#)

After a brief introduction, Kris Gade, Pima County Conservation Lands and Resources, and Jenny Neeley, Pima County Conservation Lands and Resources, provided the members with a brief review of the 25th anniversary of the Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan, including its history, goals, implementation, and accomplishments.

Members were informed of the history and development of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan, detailing its key milestones, adoption, and historical accomplishments, alongside a review of maps detailing the boundaries in which the plan covers. Additionally, members were informed of the programs the plan provides, such as residential and commercial permitting.

Kimberly Baeza, Pima County, inquired about future developments revolving around the conservation plan, such as renewal preparations, improvements, and tribal nation collaboration. Members were informed that Pima County is actively developing evaluation criteria and data markers to assess the plan's effectiveness as well as establishing consistent collaboration with the tribal nations.

PAG Transportation Planning Director, Jeanette DeRenne, inquired about what precautions jurisdictions should consider soon regarding project development in alignment with the conservation plan. Members were informed that it would be beneficial to adopt and incorporate the conservation plan in their initial project development to ensure alignment.

The presentation can be found [HERE](#).

This was an information only item.

### **5. EPAC Committee Update**

**Video Timestamp:** [1:13:04](#)

PAG Environmental Planning Administrator, Dustin Fitzpatrick, provided the members with a brief update on the status of the EPAC committee structure and bylaws. Members

were informed of the Regional Council's request to update and streamline all PAG and RTA committee roles, purposes, schedules and quorum requirements, as well as a review of the current PAG-RTA committee organizational chart. Additionally, members were informed of the next steps and potential timeline for changes.

The presentation can be found [HERE](#).

This was an information only item.

## 6. Future Agenda Items

Members requested the following items:

- EPAC committee bylaw amendments
- Town of Oro Valley Vistoso Trails Nature Preserve and Desert Ecosystem Restoration Project presentation
- Pima County Floodprone Land Acquisition Program (FLAP) and riparian corridor presentation

***\*\*\*Pursuant to open meeting laws, the committee cannot discuss or act on any matter raised that is not listed on this agenda.***

## 7. Adjournment

**Action:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Christina McVie, Tucson Bird Alliance, and was seconded by Kimberly Baeza, Pima County. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.