

Pinal County Strategic Priorities

Regional Leadership

Pinal County will provide leadership through proactive involvement in regional issues (including growth, public safety, healthcare, transportation, education, environmental concerns and economic development).

Issues Addressed: Rural vs. Urban Balance, Crime Rate, Childhood Immunization Rate, Healthcare Accessibility, Regional Transportation Planning, Increase Living Wage Opportunities, Economic Development, and Accountability

Growth

Pinal County will effectively coordinate land use (growth area), environmental planning, (energy, water), open space, transportation, economic development and housing to guide growth in Pinal County for sustainable communities, as evidenced by:

- Coordinate County departments to provide quality and expedited review processes for land use entitlement, platting, engineering and site plans.
- By 2009, the adoption of the Pinal County Comprehensive Plan update will be complete and implementation of the above elements in all future land use initiatives will begin in 2010.
- By 2009, Pinal County will support commercial and industrial development by expediting the processing of zoning entitlement and site plan projects.
- By 2010, adopt a new Pinal County Zoning Code.
- By 2011, a Comprehensive Plan Score Card System will be implemented to measure all land development applicants to comply with 95% of the elements of the Pinal County Comprehensive Plan [land use, growth areas, environmental planning (energy, water), open space, transportation, economic development and housing.]
- Increase efforts to attract affordable housing options for all socio-economic segments of the population.

Issues Addressed: Comprehensive Plan, Rural vs. Urban Balance, Infrastructure Concerns, Grid-Lock and “Cookie Cutter” Avoidance, Commercial Development, Land Use and Economic Development.

Public Safety

Pinal County will foster safe neighborhoods and communities and will provide residents and court users effective and timely court services, as evidenced by:

- By 2010, have an overall crime rate of less than or equal to the national average crime rate as published by the FBI Uniform Crime Report.
- By 2010, decrease law enforcement response time from 15 minutes to 10 minutes for emergency calls.
- Increased Law Enforcement and Probation Officer presence in the community.
- By 2010, there will be a 10% increase (from 80% to 90%) in clearance rate of non-capital criminal cases within 180 days.
- By 2010, an Adult Drug Court will be formed.

Issues Addressed: Response Time, Crime Rate (Graffiti/Gang Related Violence, Property Crimes, Illicit Drug Crimes), Crime Prevention, Methamphetamine Use and Clearance Rate for Non-Capital Criminal Cases

Healthcare

In conjunction with the “Healthy People 2010” federal program, Pinal County will reduce the risk and illness of infectious diseases, as evidenced by:

- By 2010, there will be an increase in the vaccination rate of all 24 month old children from 53% to 80%.
- By 2010, Pinal County will achieve the national standard, identified in “Healthy People 2010,” of providing treatment for 80% of confirmed Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) cases.
- Increase healthcare accessibility through healthcare service expansion including facilities and providers coupled with the efficient allocation of resources.
- Reduce methamphetamine use by increased education and awareness for all 5th graders in Pinal County and continued financial support and participation in the Meth Coalition.
- Increase the number of mentally-ill inmates that are referred to appropriate treatment in a timely manner and support programs that educate affected County departments.

Issues Addressed: Childhood Immunization Rate, Mental Health Care, Methamphetamine Use, and Healthcare Accessibility

Transportation

Pinal County will provide residents and the traveling public with quality maintained roads and will expand its multi-modal (public transportation, personal vehicle, etc.) transportation capacity, providing residents with a greater range of alternative travel means, as evidenced by:

- By 2009, Adoption of a Regional Transportation Plan and implementing 10% of the plan annually beginning in 2010.
- By 2010, 80% of all dirt roads (excluding designated primitive roads) will be maintained on a frequency of once every 4 weeks.
- While faced with reduced federal and state transportation funding, Pinal County remains committed to increasing the capacity of significant paved roads by adding an additional 10 miles of paved lanes for travel each year, beginning in 2010 and continuing.
- By 2011, 15% of unincorporated county paved roads will have a rating of good or better with less than 10% having a substandard rating.
- By 2011, convert dirt and gravel roads to chip sealed roads by 30 miles per year.
- By 2012, 10% of the Pinal County Transportation Feasibility Study will be implemented.

Issues Addressed: Commute Times, Regional Transportation Planning, Systemized Roads, Public Transportation Development, and Air Quality.

Jobs and Economic Development

Pinal County Government will promote an increase in living wage employment centers with diverse prospects in an effort to provide the residents of Pinal County with quality employment opportunities and a vibrant regional economy for sustainable communities, as evidenced by:

- By 2011, there will be an increase of support for the activities of regional economic development organizations in partnership with cities, towns, and chambers of commerce.
- By 2012, the Jobs-to-Housing ratio will be improved from the current 160 jobs per 1,000 houses to 200 jobs per 1,000 houses.

Issues Addressed: Economic Development, Employment Centers, Increase of Living Wage Job Opportunities, Commute Times, and Commercial Development.

Financial Responsibility

Pinal County will continue to reduce the primary property tax rate while ensuring continued financial stability, as evidenced by:

- By 2011, reduction of the primary property tax rate by 13% from \$3.43 to below \$2.99.
- By 2011, improve the financial rating of “A” to A+ or better as determined by Standard and Poor’s Indices.

Issues Addressed: Property Tax Reduction, Economic Development.

Accountability

Pinal County will provide public information available on the County website so its residents will know what services they receive from the County and the value they receive in return for the taxes they pay, as evidenced by:

- By 2010, Elected Officials, Courts and County Departments will implement “department specific” Strategic Business Plans that account for performance goals and expenditures.
- By 2009, the Board of Supervisors will increase electronic and website information accessible to the citizens of Pinal County.

Issues Addressed: Accountability and Transparency to the Pinal County Residents.