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For immediate release

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PAG coordinates regional cleanup event along Starr Pass Boulevard

Garbage, buffelgrass removal precedes Solar America Cities conference at J.W. Starr Pass Marriott Resort

More than 50 people participated in a litter and buffelgrass cleanup along Starr Pass Boulevard today in advance of the first Solar America Cities conference next week at the J.W. Starr Pass Marriott Resort. Last year, the City of Tucson was designated as a Solar America City and is now hosting solar coordinators in their inaugural event, which will be convened by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Today's event is the second cleanup as part of a new regional effort to help make a positive first impression on visitors to the region. This event follows a 5-mile cleanup on Jan. 25 along Tucson Boulevard between downtown and the Tucson International Airport. A second event planned for Feb. 15 along Tangerine Boulevard was canceled due to rain.

The public-private effort is being coordinated by Pima Association of Governments, Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities, Southern Arizona Leadership Council and Tucson Clean & Beautiful.

One of the goals of the regional cleanup is to inspire other businesses and partnering organizations to sign up and adopt a one-mile segment for volunteer clean up. At least two businesses have signed up to adopt areas along Tucson Boulevard since the Jan. 25 cleanup.

Tucson Clean & Beautiful, a nonprofit community-based organization, runs the Adopt-a-Street program. For more information about adopting a corridor for clean up, please visit call (520) 791-3109 or visit www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org. The Web site includes information about other cleanup programs available through the various jurisdictions.

Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, air quality and water quality. For more information, please visit www.PAGnet.org

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