

*Resolution made by Pima Association
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Regional Resilience to Climate and Weather Variability

Recognizing the value of collaboration to ensure regional economic growth, human and ecosystem health, and continued reliability of energy, water, and food resources under a range of future climatic conditions and extreme events such as droughts, extreme heat and floods.

Whereas, coordinating cross-sector strategies can improve adaptation to, and mitigation of, future climate and weather variability that will likely impact all governments, ecosystems and citizens;

Whereas, proactive planning is less costly and more protective of community health and well-being, and early investments ensure that the region remains economically sustainable and competitive, and can grow new and strengthen local business, and build a highly skilled professional workforce;

Whereas, smart transportation and land use planning can offer adaptation and mitigation co-benefits by integrating mixed-use development with increased options for alternate modes of transportation, thereby improving connectivity to community resources;

Whereas, the urban environment can be augmented through green infrastructure investment, providing tree shade, increasing green space and urban cooling, improving water quality, and decreasing flood risk;

Whereas, local food initiatives such as neighborhood gardens, farmers markets, and local harvesting and re-distribution serve to increase community resilience and self-reliance by reducing fresh food deserts, decreasing long distance food hauling, and increasing food security;

Whereas, implementing energy efficiency measures, diversifying energy technologies and pursuing strategic grid strengthening measures may reduce the impact of high demand during extreme weather events;

Whereas, outreach and engagement, particularly to vulnerable populations, will be needed to ensure that people have knowledge of and equitable access to relief centers and other adaptation resources that will be needed to alleviate heat stress and other health-related issues; and

Whereas, higher temperatures and drought conditions increase the importance of meeting regional water needs, while supporting riparian areas and urban forests, and is being addressed by coordinating strategies for conservation of groundwater and diversifying sources, such as recycled water and harvested stormwater.

Now, therefore, be it recognized that Pima Association of Governments' Regional Council (PAG) commends the region and its jurisdictions for developing climate resilience strategies that safeguard transportation, water, energy, health, the environment, and food security in the region. With continued efforts, member jurisdictions are poised to foster federal, state and non-governmental agency partnerships, seek funding opportunities, and help our region gain national recognition as a leader in sustainability.

And may it also be recognized that PAG encourages proactive regional collaboration on climate resilience activities through information sharing and combining resources that benefit our community, and in particular, address the needs of our vulnerable populations.