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For immediate release
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Tucson Clean Cities to celebrate grand opening of electric vehicle fast-charge station in Picacho

Electric vehicle owners driving between Tucson and Phoenix will have the comfort of knowing that they will be able to stop about halfway and get a fast charge.

The Picacho Shell Station, located across from Picacho Peak along Interstate 10 (Exit 219, East Camino Adelante Road), will celebrate a grand opening and ribbon cutting for its new electric vehicle fast-charge service at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 8.

Guest speakers include Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett, representatives of Arizona Clean Cities Coalitions and others.

Electric vehicle fast-charge units can charge an electric vehicle in 15-45 minutes compared to home charging units that take approximately 8 hours to fully recharge an electric vehicle.

Electric vehicles available in the Tucson market include the Nissan LEAF, Ford Focus, Mitsubishi MiEV and the Tesla.

“This is a major milestone in electric vehicle infrastructure development and the first step in building Arizona’s electric vehicle highway,” said Colleen Crowninshield, Manager of the Tucson Clean Cities Program at Pima Association of Governments. “The fast-charge availability will help reduce any range anxiety for travelers who have a vehicle with a range of about 100 miles. This will give them assurance that they can drive the distance between Tucson and Phoenix.”

Other activities during the grand opening include ride-and-drive opportunities, a jumping castle and face painting for kids, as well as food and giveaways.

Clean Cities is a voluntary program of the U.S. Department of Energy to expand the use of alternatives to gasoline and diesel fuel, accelerate the use of alternative fuel vehicles and build a local refueling infrastructure for these vehicles.

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, energy, watershed and air quality. PAG’s staff gather and analyze data, provide accurate information, and coordinate an open and cooperative planning process to promote good decision-making for the region. Please visit www.PAGregion.com for more information or www.facebook.com/PAGregion.