

Pima County Democratic Party Supports National Infrastructure Bank

Whereas, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) stated in its 2025 report card that the United States received a grade of C regarding the current state of infrastructure and that more than nine trillion dollars would be needed to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good repair. Nearly four trillion dollars is currently not funded, the remainder is inadequately funded, and all new, 21st Century projects are unfunded; and,

Whereas, Arizona's infrastructure needs require significant investment. The American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) 2020 Report Card highlights a \$12 billion need for drinking water systems and a \$4 billion need for wastewater systems; and,

Whereas, the Colorado River Basin is in a Tier 1 shortage for 2024. This represents a 512,000 acre-foot reduction to Arizona's Colorado River water supply, constituting 30% of Central Arizona Project's normal supply. The CAP is the primary water supplier for Pima County; and

Whereas, 335,000 residents statewide lack broadband access; and,

Whereas, Arizona is facing a significant funding shortfall for road and bridge infrastructure, approximately \$30.5 billion over the next 25 years. The state's 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan projects total funding needs to exceed \$231 billion, and current funding sources fall short; and,

Whereas, Arizona anticipates a 35% increase in utility capacity demand by 2031, necessitating investments in energy infrastructure; and,

Whereas, Arizona is estimated to be short approximately 67,000 housing units; Tucson needs a total of 35,000 units to combat homelessness; and 38%, or about 13,000 units, need to be affordable to people making less than 30% of the average median income; and,

Whereas, Congress introduced HR 4052 into the 118th Congress, The National Infrastructure Bank Act (NIB), to create a new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB). It will be capitalized by existing Treasury debt and require no new federal appropriations or federal taxes. It will invest

five trillion dollars into infrastructure only and create twenty-five million new high-wage jobs; and,

Whereas, the NIB is modeled on previous banks which helped build much of our infrastructure under Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt. The last such bank helped end the Great Depression and win WWII; and,

Whereas, the NIB will pay Davis-Bacon wages, and enforce a Buy America policy. It will create over 20 million new, high wage jobs nationally and at least 480,000 in Arizona. It will massively expand small and medium-sized businesses in the state and ensure significant disbursements to Disadvantaged Business Enterprises. The NIB will invest in rural and urban communities. Economists estimate the bank will grow the economy 5% per year as did its predecessors; and,

Whereas, the NIB will finance repair or replacement of all infrastructure specified by ASCE including water systems, electric grid, roads, bridges, broadband, truly affordable housing, mass transit, passenger and high-speed rail, and can finance construction of new water projects to fill the Colorado River reservoirs and fully supply the CAP; and,

Whereas, many organizations are in support of the NIB. Thirty state legislatures filed resolutions to congress, including Arizona. Eight passed at least one chamber. Many city councils have passed resolutions of support including: New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, and many more. State Democratic Party endorsements include: Pennsylvania, Virginia, Missouri, Washington State, New Mexico, Alaska. National endorsements include: The National Black Caucus of State Legislators; The National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators; The National Asian-Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators; NADO (541 Regional Planning Commissions), the US High Speed Rail Association, and many more; now, therefore be it

Resolved, the Pima County Democratic Party urges Congress to create a National Infrastructure Bank, on this model, to finance urgently needed infrastructure projects; and be it further

Resolved that copies of this resolution be sent to the Arizona Democratic Party and the Democratic National Committee

