

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

TUBAC POCKET PARK

FEBRUARY 14, 2022

Tubac Pocket Park

Project Goals

- Rethink underutilized land.
- Add to the Tubac walking and event space footprint.
- Build on the local Tubac character.
- Provide a multi-functional safe space with lighting and tables.
- Provide shade and a drinking fountain.
- Provide additional parking.
- Provide water-harvesting.
- Celebrate Tubac's history and heritage.



- Multi-functional safe space with lighting and tables.



SITE FURNISHINGS

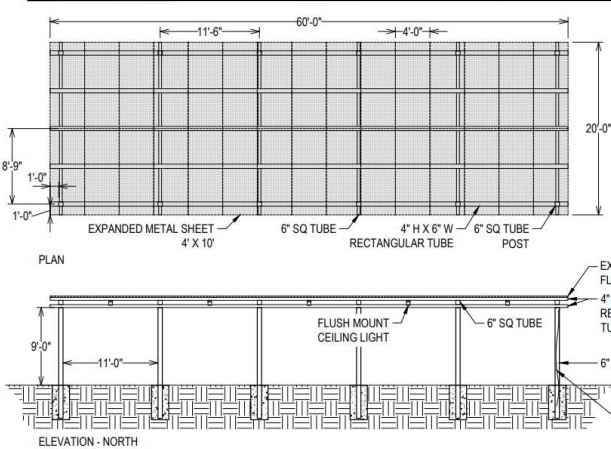


GROUND COVER



Birds-Eye View of the Pocket Park

SITE FURNISHINGS



- NOTES:
1. Steel sizes reflect design intent. Actual size and gauge of steel to be approved by Structural Engineer.
 2. Footer depths and widths to be determined by Structural Engineer.

4 STEEL RAMADA





- Multi-functional safe space with lighting and tables.



• Parking & Wall Isometric



The Road to Restoration

Collecting stormwater to support desert ecosystems

Runoff from urban areas has a big impact on our native streams and waterways. By slowing and reducing urban run-off, rain gardens help support the health of our arroyos and rivers.

Stormwater runoff flows through permeable paving into wet storage areas underneath.

Calm and collected

- Key points:
 - Describe how rainwater is passively collected
 - Describe infiltration mechanisms

Supporting watershed health

- Key Points:
 - Describe green stormwater infrastructure as a low impact development strategy
 - Engage visitors in thinking about the connection between watershed health and the health of human and natural desert communities.

Supporting Native Habitat

- Key points:
 - Highlight the importance and benefits of planting native plants
 - Describe and engage visitors in identifying several key native plant species

What native plant and wildlife species do you see?

1

2

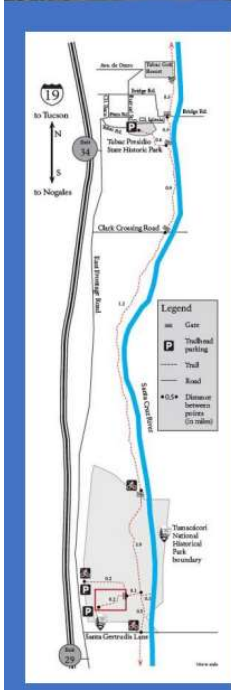
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Basin aquifer



- Water-Harvesting Interpretive Sign





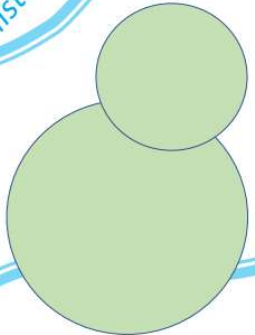
Introduction

The history of Tubac and life in the desert is inextricably linked to water.....

What can I do to help?

- Harvest water at your home or business
- Join a local watershed group and participate in restoration workshops
- Experience the Santa Cruz and the De Anza trail here in Tubac.
 - Trailhead info.....

History that follows the flow



The Waters of Tchoowaka

Native inhabitants farmed the Santa Cruz for over 3,000 years before the Spanish arrived at its banks (Lamberton 2011). The Santa Cruz River valley's earliest human residents were the Hohokam, who first cultivated desert crops in the rich, sedimentary flood plains of the Santa Cruz in settlements dating back to 300 BCE. The O'odham peoples, descendants of the Hohokam, established a large settlement called Tchoowaka located near the site of the current town of Tubac as early as 1500. Native peoples gathered water from perennial springs and marches (called Cienegas) that filled the channel between Tubac and Tucson.

Colonialization & Cultivation

In 1752 Tubac was established as the first permanent European settlement in Arizona — then under Spanish colonial rule in the *Provincia Alta* which covered most of southern AZ and parts of northern Mexico; presence of Spanish missionaries increased throughout the 1600s and was later followed by Anglo ranchers and gold hounds.

• Tubac Today and History

A Valley is Born

The Santa Cruz River valley formed as part of the tectonic change in the Arizona 5.3 million years ago as geologic faulting and erosion and deposition, basins filled with sediment and rich alluvial fans spread through the valley and tributaries of the Santa Cruz river valley. In this early era, you might have glimpsed one of these now extinct mega faunas, such as the mammoth, coming to drink from the perennial flow of water and graze on the dense vegetation provided by the Santa Cruz.

All Dried Up

Combined with climate factors, human Perennial flows in the Santa Cruz next to Tubac dried up circa

Tubac Today

The Ripple Effect

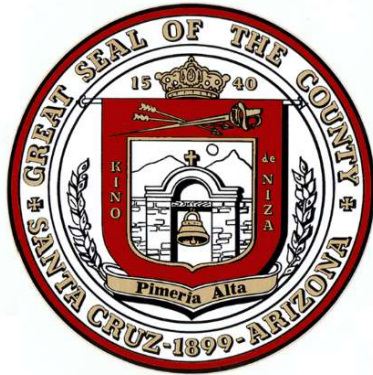
Today numerous environmental agencies are focused on keeping the Santa Cruz a living river and restoring flows to its now dry beds.



Where are we now?

- **75% Stage for the Pocket Park**
- **Awaiting ADOT Feedback on Property**
- **Lead into the TUBAC Walkability Study**
 - ✓ **Pedestrian Route Evaluation**
 - ✓ **Vehicle Routing Evaluation and Alternatives to optimize business exposure**
 - ✓ **Minimize Pedestrian Conflicts**
 - ✓ **Focus on Businesses**
 - ✓ **Create an inviting Plaza Entrance and Destination**
 - ✓ **Develop Plaza Area Alternatives**
 - ✓ **Design Charrette to Inform Design Mid-Year 2022**





QUESTIONS?

Santa Cruz County

February 14, 2022