September 13, 2012

Honorable Mayor and and Council Members

Subject: 2011 ESAC Annual Report

Dear Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

The Environmental Services Advisory Committee (ESAC) is pleased to provide its 2011 Annual Report to you. ESAC was established by the Mayor and City Council to serve as the advisory body to the Environmental Services Department (ES) to review departmental operations and represent citizens' interests regarding rate setting and services provided. ESAC meets monthly, unless there is no quorum. In 2011, seven meetings were held. This Annual Report summarizes ESAC activities in the following areas:

- Financial Planning, including review of ES operating & capital budgets and revenue sources
- Development of ES Rates and Fees
- Waste Reduction and Diversion programs

Sincerely,

Margot Garcia
ESAC Chair

MG/dg

Attachment: 2011 ESAC Annual Report

c: Richard Miranda, City Manager
Andrew H. Quigley, Assistant City Manager
Nancy Petersen, Interim Director, ES
Roger Randolph, City Clerk
ESAC

September 13, 2012

Environmental Services Advisory Committee (ESAC) 2011 Annual Report

In 2001, a Solid Waste Advisory Committee was established by Mayor and Council to work with the citizens of Tucson in order to implement the "One & One Plus Recycling Program." Since that time Mayor and Council expanded the scope of the committee to advise on all the programs and services of the Environmental Services Department and changed the name of the Committee to Environmental Services Advisory Committee (ESAC).

ESAC has 13 voting members which represent residents or businesses within Tucson: 1 appointed by each member of the Mayor & Council (7 total), and 6 members nominated by the City Manager. (Attachment 1) The full committee met 7 times in 2011. There are also three subcommittees. These are Finance, Collections, Recycling & Public Information and Environmental-Engineering.

One of the functions of ESAC is to "Provide an Annual Report to the Governing Body on the operations of Environmental Services." This Annual Report summarizes ESAC activities in 2011 in the following areas:

- Financial Planning, including review of ES operating and capital budgets and revenue sources
- Development of ES Rates and Fees
- Waste Reduction and Diversion Programs

FINANCIAL PLANNING

The ESAC Finance Subcommittee held 9 meetings in 2011 to review ES' proposed Operating Budget, 5-year Capital Projects Budget, and Revenue projections. In addition to reviewing ES' expenses and revenue projections the subcommittee also reviewed ES' updated Cost of Service Model. The subcommittee reviewed the budget and Chapter 15 code recommendations made by ES financial staff, and then the plan was presented to the full ESAC with a recommendation for its approval in May.

The Finance Subcommittee also reviewed ES' Quarterly Financial Results and noted the health of the ES fund remained on a positive track throughout the year. At the end of the fiscal year, the Finance Subcommittee was also notified that ES planned to track both future liabilities for long-term landfill closure and post-closure monitoring costs, and necessary capital project reserves for development of future landfill cells and operation reserves.

ES RATES AND FEES

The Finance Subcommittee reviewed ES' Cost of Service Model and Rates and Fee Proposals for FY 2012. The Finance Subcommittee also reviewed ES' changes to existing fees and services to include miscellaneous fees, an increase to commercial rates, and adjustment to the fuel surcharge and an increase to the Groundwater Protection Fee. The Subcommittee completed its review of the updated rates and fees schedules in May.

ESAC's approval of proposed adjustments to ES' rates was communicated to Mayor & Council with a letter of support dated May 17, 2011. A public hearing was conducted on May 17, 2011 and the proposed ES Rates and Fees were subsequently approved by Mayor & Council.

WASTE REDUCTION AND DIVERSION PROGRAM OVERSIGHT

Mayor & Council originally established ESAC to provide oversight for the implementation of the Blue Barrel Recycling Program. In 2005, the Mayor & Council charged ESAC with acting as an advisory body for ES operations and financial responsibility, however, waste reduction and diversion has been an important concern of the committee and the Collections, Recycling, and Public Information subcommittee of ESAC. The Collections, Recycling and Public Information subcommittee met 9 times during 2011.

The representative of the subcommittee participated in the Request for Purchase (RFP) process for the selection of a company to receive, process and market the City's 40,000 tons of recyclable material for the next 15 - 20 years. After selection, the committee received regular updates on the construction progress of the facility which successfully opened on July 2, 2012.

The subcommittee was also interested in moving forward programs to encourage more recycling in City parks. They received two presentations on the current recycling efforts at City parks and potential pilot projects which will be introduced later this year.

The subcommittee also received reports on the Department's Commercial Waste audit program and offered suggestions to possible increased participation.

The subcommittee also reviews the public outreach efforts associated with new programs or service changes to make sure questions that residents may have are fully addressed and explained. They have also supported programs to encourage more participation in recycling by advertising on collection vehicles and continuing a public school environmental education outreach program. The subcommittee has been part of the discussion and study on the organization and management of the Brush & Bulky program. The subcommittee will continue to advise staff as new opportunities for waste reduction and diversion are pursued.

ENVIRONMENTAL-ENGINEERING

The Environmental-Engineering Subcommittee is an ad-hoc committee and only met once in 2011 to discuss LUST and UST sites.

Attachment 1
Environmental Services Advisory Committee (ESAC)

Appointer (Classification)	*Member*	*Appointment*	*Expiration*
Mayor	1 Vacant Position		
Mayor & Council (City Manager nominee)	Margaret N. Bowman	9/5/2011	9/4/2015
Mayor & Council (City Manager nominee)	Sandra Fimbres	8/9/2011	8/8/2015
Mayor & Council (City Manager nominee)	Tina E. Cook	8/9/2011	6/10/2015
Mayor & Council (City Manager nominee)	Margot Garcia (Chair)	5/5/2009	4/10/2013
Mayor & Council (City Manager nominee)	Eva Macias	8/9/2011	8/8/2015
Mayor & Council (City Manager nominee)	1 Vacant Position		
Ward 1	Yvonne Merrill	12/15/2011	12/7/2015
Ward 2	Nicole Sweeney	12/13/2011	12/7/2015
Ward 3	Rachel Miller	2/10/2012	12/2/2013
Ward 4	Michael W. Block	12/5/2011	3/28/2013
Ward 5	Ellen Rauch	9/7/2010	12/2/2013
Ward 6	Wilson Hughes	12/8/2009	12/2/2013