A Resolution to Support the Development of a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for the Tucson Region

Whereas, there is a growing scientific concern that the emission of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide is contributing to climate change; and in response, many state and local governments have acted to initiate efforts to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases within their jurisdictions;

Whereas, statewide emissions of greenhouse gases have increased by an estimated 56 percent from 1990 levels to 2005, and Arizona greenhouse gas emissions are projected to increase by an estimated 148 percent over 1990 levels by 2020; and

Whereas, on September 6, 2006, Mayor Walkup, representing the City of Tucson, endorsed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement supporting the goals of the Kyoto Treaty, pledging to work towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas, this Mayor's Agreement requires a greenhouse gas emissions inventory be conducted; and

Whereas, the last greenhouse gas emissions inventory was conducted for the City of Tucson in 1997, but a regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory has not been conducted; and

Whereas, on September 8, 2006, Governor Napolitano signed Executive Order 2006-13 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions statewide with a reduction goal timetable (to 2000 levels by 2020 and 50% below 2000 levels by 2040); and

Whereas, on February 26, 2007, the State of Arizona joined with California, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington to form the Western Climate Initiative to meet regional challenges raised by climate change; and

Whereas, on May 1, 2007, Pima County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution in support of new county sustainability initiatives, including water and energy conservation, use of renewable energy resources and alternative fuels, recognizing that increasing emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere is affecting the earth’s climate; and
Whereas, on May 24, 2007, this Regional Council adopted the Overall Work Program outlining that staff provides regional coordination for jurisdictional members to monitor developments, and educate and promote awareness of greenhouse gas emissions and control strategies; and

Whereas, the compilation of a comprehensive and regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory is in the public interest and Pima Association of Governments is the appropriate organization to develop a regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory on behalf of the greater Tucson community.

In Consideration Thereof, the PAG Regional Council:

Directs PAG staff to, in consultation with PAG jurisdictions and appropriate government agencies, develop a regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the Tucson region; and

Encourages its member jurisdictions to provide information and support as required to assist PAG staff in the creation of the regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory.