

Gila River Indian Community Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

January 2015

4/22/2015
Gila River Indian Community
Office of Emergency Management



**Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014**

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Executive Summary

Across the United States, natural caused disasters and emergencies have led to increasing levels of death, injury, property damage, and interruption of business and government services. As a result, the demand on families and individuals can be significant and damages to businesses can negatively impact the economy. The time, money and effort to respond to and recover from these emergencies and disasters divert resources and focus from current programs and projects. With six declared flooding emergencies within the past 20 years, the Gila River Indian Community (the “Community” or “GRIC”) recognizes the consequences and the need to reduce the impact of natural caused hazards. The Community’s leadership understands that mitigation actions and projects are critical to reduce costs in the long term and the impact of future emergencies and disasters to the Community.

Gila River Indian Community Officials and the Office of Emergency Management (“OEM”) committed to revising the 2007 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (“2007 Plan”), which is required to be updated every five years. The Community formed a Planning Team composed of experts that could contribute to mitigation actions and projects. Between September 11, 2012 to November 6, 2012, the Planning Team met formally three times to evaluate and update the 2007 Plan. As part of this process, the OEM and Planning Team members have conducted research and collaborated with stakeholders to ensure the plan is complete as possible.

As part of the process, GRIC developed and submitted an updated and revised mitigation plan for approval by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) that outlined the process for identifying the Community’s natural hazards, and probability of occurrence and consequences of such hazards. The Planning Team chose mitigation projects to potentially reduce damage to homes and infrastructure due to these hazards. **This Plan was has been updated to reflect not only the original members and their comments, but also includes the current staff in those positions.**

An approved Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is required in order to be eligible for recovery funds and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding following a disaster. This 2014 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (“2014 Plan” or “MHMP”) has been prepared in compliance with Section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (“Stafford Act”), 42 U.S.C. § 5165, enacted under Section 104 the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Approval of this Plan will ensure continued eligibility for available funding. **As this plan is a snapshot in time, some current issues or information is not currently listed within the plan. Any updated information will be included in future updates. However, key information or current events will be addressed as needed.**

Gila River Indian Community, a federally recognized Tribe, is organized and established as a sovereign nation pursuant to the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, 25 U.S.C. § 461, et seq. The GRIC recognizes the need to be in compliance with federal laws as it pertains to the context of this document; however, GRIC adheres to its Tribal constitution and sovereign government status. On _____, 2014, the Community Council formally adopted the 2014 Plan.

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Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014**

Official Record of Adoption

(The signed copy of the Community Council Resolution is to be placed at this location)

Promulgation Authority Information

(Insert Community Council Names)

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FEMA Approval Letter

(FEMA approval letter to be placed upon receipt from FEMA)

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Record of Distribution

Record of Distribution

| DEPARTMENT/Organization | POSITION | LIST* | DATE |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------|------|
| Community Council Secretary's Office | Council Secretary | P | |
| Community Services Department | Director | P | |
| Communication & Public Affairs Office | Director | P | |
| Cultural Resources Management Program | Director | S | |
| Department of Community Housing | Director | P | |
| Department of Environmental Quality | Director | P | |
| Department of Public Works | Director | P | |
| Department of Rehabilitation & Supervision | Chief Administrator | P | |
| Department of Transportation | Director | P | |
| Defense Services Office | Director | G | |
| Emergency Medical Services | Director | P | |
| Employment & Training Department | Director | G | |
| Enrollment & Census Department | Director | G | |
| Facilities Maintenance Department | Director | P | |
| Finance Department | Director | P | |
| Fire Department | Fire Chief | P | |
| Huhugam Heritage Center | Director | G | |
| Human Resources Department | Director | P | |
| Health Resources Department | Director | P | |
| Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority | General Manager | P | |
| Gila River Irrigation & Drainage District | General Manager | S | |
| Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. | Director | G | |
| Land Use Planning & Zoning Department | Director | S | |
| Management Information Services Department | Director | P | |
| Occupational Safety and Health Office | Sr. Occupational Safety Officer | S | |
| Office of Emergency Management | Director | P | |
| Office of General Counsel | General Counsel | P | |
| Office of the Prosecutor | Chief Prosecutor | G | |
| Office of Special Funding | Administrator | G | |
| Office of Treasurer | Treasurer | P | |
| Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project | Director | S | |
| Police Department | Police Chief | P | |
| Property & Supply Department | Procurement Director | P | |
| Tribal Courts | Chief Judge | G | |
| Tribal Education Department | Director | G | |
| Tribal Employment Rights Office | Director | G | |
| Tribal Gaming Office | Executive Director | G | |
| Tribal Historic Preservation Office | Tribal Historic Preservation Officer | S | |
| Tribal Projects Development | Director | P | |

**Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014**

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------|--|
| Tribal Social Services | Director | S | |
| Youth Council | Coordinator | G | |
| District 1 Public Copy | Coordinator | G | |
| District 2 Public Copy | Coordinator | G | |
| District 3 Public Copy | Coordinator | G | |
| District 4 Public Copy | Coordinator | G | |
| District 5 Public Copy | Coordinator | G | |
| District 6 Public Copy | Coordinator | G | |
| District 7 Public Copy | Coordinator | G | |

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Table of Contents

| | |
|---|------------|
| INTRODUCTION | 11 |
| Purpose and Authority | 12 |
| 44 CFR 201.7 - Tribal Mitigation Plan | 13 |
| Update Requirements | 15 |
| Tribal Assurance | 15 |
| Tribal Authorities | 15 |
| Gila River Indian Community Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan | 15 |
| SECTION 1: PLANNING PROCESS | 17 |
| Section Changes | 18 |
| 1.1 Planning Process Description | 18 |
| 1.2 Program Integration | 22 |
| 1.3 Public Involvement Strategy | 24 |
| SECTION 2: COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION | 25 |
| 2.1 Overview | 26 |
| District General Statement | 30 |
| SECTION 3: RISK ASSESSMENT | 50 |
| 3.1 Hazard Identification | 51 |
| 3.2 Hazard Profiles | 53 |
| ASSET INVENTORY | 55 |
| SECTION 4: MITIGATION STRATEGY | 78 |
| 4.1 Capability Assessment | 79 |
| 4.3 Analysis of Past Mitigation Actions/Projects | 90 |
| 4.4 Mitigation Actions/Projects and Implementation Strategy | 97 |
| SECTION 5: PLAN MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES | 102 |
| 5.1 Monitoring and Evaluation | 103 |
| 5.2 Plan Update | 104 |
| 5.3 Incorporation into Existing Planning Mechanisms | 105 |
| 5.4 Member and Stakeholder Involvement | 106 |
| APPENDICES 107 | |
| Appendix 1: Acronyms | 108 |
| Appendix 2: Definitions | 109 |
| Appendix 3 Planning Meetings | 113 |
| Appendix 4: Calculated Priority Risk Index (CPRI) | 122 |
| Appendix 5: Wild Land Fire Potential Maps | 126 |

**Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014**

Table List

| Table | Name | Page |
|--------------|--|-------------|
| A | Planning Team | 15 |
| B | Resource Documents | 19 |
| C | Calculated Priority Risk Index | 47 |
| D | Hazard Table | 48 |
| E | Historical Events | 49 |
| F | Flooding Impact/Consequences | 57 |
| G | Flooding Number of Critical & Non-Critical Facilities and Infrastructure per District | 58 |
| H | Heat Related Deaths | 60 |
| I | Heat Index | 62 |
| J | Severe Temperature Impact/Consequences | 63 |
| K | Severe Weather Impact/Consequences | 65 |
| L | Wildfires Impact/Consequences | 67 |
| M | Wildfire Number of Critical & Non-Critical Facilities and Infrastructure per District | 68 |
| N | Facilities & Infrastructure Categories | 71 |
| O | Non-Critical Serving as Critical | 72 |
| P | Community Wide Number of Critical & Non-Critical Facilities and Infrastructure per District | 73 |
| Q | Regulatory Tools | 75 |
| R | Pre and Post Disaster Hazard Management Responsibilities | 76 |
| S | Technical Staff & Personnel Capabilities | 78 |
| T | Fiscal Capabilities | 79 |
| U | Summary Previous Plan Cycle Mitigation Action/Projects | 82 |
| V | Mitigation Action Plan/Implementation Strategy | 89 |

Figure List

| Figure | Name | Page |
|---------------|--|-------------|
| 1 | Overview-Planning Area | 21 |
| 2 | Gila River Indian Community | 22 |
| 3 | Estimated Enrolled Members | 23 |
| 4 | Enrollment Demographics | 24 |
| 5 | District 1 Map | 29 |
| 6 | District 2 Map | 32 |
| 7 | District 3 Map | 35 |
| 8 | District 4 Map | 38 |
| 9 | District 5 Map | 41 |
| 10 | District 6 Map | 44 |
| 11 | District 7 Map | 46 |
| 12 | Flood Prone Area with Districts | 51 |
| 13 | Graph Heat Related Deaths | 60 |
| 14 | Average Temperatures | 62 |
| 15 | Extreme Temperatures | 62 |

INTRODUCTION

Purpose and Authority

Defining Hazard Mitigation

A hazard is any event or condition with the potential to cause fatalities, injuries, property damage, infrastructure damage, agricultural loss, environmental damage, business interruption, or other structural and financial loss. Hazard mitigation is defined as any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long term risk to human life and property from human-caused or natural hazards. As communities continue to grow, hazard mitigation will play an important role in the government's primary objective of protecting its citizens' health, safety and welfare.

The chief objective of hazard mitigation is to make human development and the natural environment safer and more resilient. Hazard mitigation generally involves altering the built environment to significantly reduce risks and vulnerability to hazards so that life and property losses can be avoided or reduced. Mitigation also includes removing the built environment from disaster prone areas and maintaining natural mitigating features, such as floodplains. Hazard mitigation makes it easier and less expensive to respond to and recover from disasters by breaking the damage and repair cycle.

Examples of hazard mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Development of mitigation standards, regulations, policies, and programs
- Land use/zoning policies
- Strong building codes and floodplain management regulations
- Acquisition of flood prone and environmentally sensitive lands
- Retrofitting/hardening/elevating structures and critical facilities
- Relocation of structures, infrastructure, and facilities out of vulnerable areas
- Public awareness/education campaigns
- Improvement of warning and evacuation systems

Benefits of hazard mitigation include:

- Saving lives and protecting public health
- Preventing or minimizing property damage
- Minimizing social dislocation and stress
- Reducing economic losses
- Protecting and preserving infrastructure
- Less expenditures on response and recovery efforts

In 2005, a study by the National Institute of Building Sciences through its Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council, reported to Congress that money spent on reducing the risk of natural hazards is a sound investment. On average, \$1 spent on hazard mitigation saves the Nation about \$4 in future benefits. In addition, FEMA grants to mitigate the effects of floods, hurricanes, tornados, and earthquakes between 1993 and 2003 were estimated to save more than 220 lives over approximately 50 years.

General Plan Description

The Community's officials recognize that natural hazards pose a significant threat at varying degrees of magnitude and frequency, to the safety and economic stability of the Community. Often, the potential reality of hazards is not fully understood or realized until a major disaster occurs. The Community understands that, without a mitigation plan, financial, environmental, cultural, and human losses will undoubtedly be high.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 ("DMA2K"), commonly known as the 2000 Stafford Act Amendments, was approved by Congress on October 10, 2000. Section 322 of the DMA2K primarily deals with hazard mitigation planning as it relates to the development of local hazard mitigation plans. The DMA2K legislation was signed into law by the President on October 30, 2000 (Public Law 106-390). The Interim Final Rule for planning provisions was initially published in the Federal Register on February 26, 2002, 67 Fed. Reg. 8844 (to be codified at 44 C.F.R. pt. 201). The Interim Final Rule was again published on October 1, 2002 to extend the planning deadline to November 1, 2004, 67 Fed. Reg. 61512. Hazard mitigation planning requirements for tribes wishing to participate as grantees under the public assistance and hazard mitigation programs are implemented pursuant to 44 C.F.R. § 201.7, which was published in the Federal Register on October 31, 2007, 72 Fed. Reg. 61552.

44 C.F.R. § 201.7 - Tribal Mitigation Plan

§ 201.7 Tribal Mitigation Plans. The Indian Tribal Mitigation Plan is the representation of the Indian tribal government's commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards.

§ 201.7(a) Plan requirement. (1) Indian tribal governments applying to FEMA as a grantee must have an approved Tribal Mitigation Plan meeting the requirements of this section as a condition of receiving non-emergency Stafford Act assistance and FEMA mitigation grants.

The regulations state as a condition of receipt of an increased Federal share for hazard mitigation measures, the mitigation plan shall describe actions to mitigate natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities and establish a mitigation action plan and implementation strategy. The 2014 Plan, upon its approval by FEMA and GRIC, fulfills these requirements.

In addition, it is understood that GRIC is required to have an approved MHMP to be eligible for disaster recovery funds under the following mitigation grant programs:

- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)**
 - Initiated by presidential disaster declaration
 - Mitigation Projects
- **Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM)**
 - Projects and planning

This 2014 Plan is arranged and prepared to satisfy Tribal level planning requirements mandated by the DMA2K. Compliance with these requirements will maintain the Community's eligibility to apply to FEMA for certain federal public assistance and hazard mitigation funds. The overall purpose of DMA2K is to amend the Stafford Act in order to establish a national program for pre-disaster mitigation, streamline

**Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014**

administration of disaster relief at both the federal and state levels, and control federal costs of disaster assistance. Congress envisioned that implementation of these new requirements would result in the following key benefits:

- Reduction of loss of life and property, human suffering, economic disruption, and disaster costs.
- Prioritization of hazard mitigation planning at the local level, with an increased emphasis placed on planning and public involvement, assessing risks, implementing loss reduction measures, and ensuring critical services/facilities survive a disaster.
- Establishment of economic incentives, awareness and education via federal support to state, tribal, and local governments, that will result in forming community-based partnerships, implementing effective hazard mitigation measures, leveraging additional non-Federal resources, and establishing commitments to long-term hazard mitigation efforts.

In general, the DMA2K legislation requires all local, county, state, and tribal governments to develop a hazard mitigation plan for their respective jurisdiction to be eligible in receiving certain federal mitigation funds. Tribes acting as grantees under the DMA2K legislation must also have a FEMA approved multi-hazard mitigation plan in order to remain eligible for Public Assistance, Category C-G funds offered by the FEMA Public Assistance Grant Program.

In addition to satisfying the regulatory requirements of DMA2K, the Plan focuses on the following:

- Identify hazards that impact the GRIC.
- Assess the vulnerability and risk posed by those hazards to reservation-wide human and structural assets.
- Develop strategies for mitigation of those identified hazards, present future maintenance procedures for the plan, document the planning process.

Where appropriate, detailed information is documented or provided in appendices. There are also certain data sets pertaining to the Risk Assessment that are deemed "sensitive" by GRIC and are a part of this 2014 Plan by reference. The sensitive data is documented in a separate technical binder, which will remain at GRIC offices accessible by the primary point of contact and will not be submitted for FEMA review. General summaries of those specific data are provided instead.

§ 201.7(c)(5) The plan must be formally adopted by the governing body of the Indian tribal government prior to submitting to FEMA for final review and approval.

The 2014 Plan was initially sent to FEMA to determine if the 2014 Plan was "approvable". Based on FEMA evaluation of the 2014 Plan and subsequent updates, the 2014 Plan was processed through the Community Council. The 2014 Plan, upon Community Council approval is forwarded to FEMA for final approval to meet the requirement the 2014 Plan be approved by the Tribal government.

§ 201.7(d)(3) Indian tribal governments must review and revise their plan to reflect changes in development, progress in local mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities, and resubmit it for approval within 5 years in order to continue to be eligible for non-emergency Stafford Act

assistance and FEMA mitigation grant funding, with the exception of the Repetitive Flood Claims program.

Update Requirements

In addition, DMA2K requires that tribal plans be updated every five years, with each plan cycle requiring a complete review, revision, and approval of the plan at the FEMA level. This MHMP is a result of an update of the current Gila River Indian Community 2007 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Tribal Assurance

§ 201.7(c)(6) The plan must include assurances that the Indian tribal government will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with § 13.11(c) of this chapter. The Indian tribal government will amend its plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in tribal or Federal laws and statutes as required in § 13.11(d) of this chapter.

The GRIC will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect for those periods when the GRIC receives grant funding per the DMA2K requirement under § 201.7(c)(6).

Tribal Authorities

This Plan has been prepared to compliment with the Gila River Indian Community Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Program and the Multi-Hazard Emergency Operations Plan. This 2014 Plan identifies hazard mitigation measures intended to eliminate or reduce the effects of a disaster within the GRIC.

Gila River Indian Community Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

The 2014 Plan is generally arranged and formatted to be consistent with the 2013 State of Arizona Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (State of Arizona Plan), tribal mitigation plan requirements under 44 C.F.R. § 201.7, and updated guidelines. The 2014 Plan is comprised of the following major sections:

Section 1: Planning Process – Process used to update the 2014 Plan, describes the assembly of the planning team, meetings conducted, and outlines public involvement efforts.

Section 2: Community Description – Description of the Community as a whole, including pertinent demographic and geographical information.

Section 3: Risk Assessment – Identification and profiling natural hazards that impact the Community and provides the vulnerability assessment of each hazard.

Section 4: Mitigation Strategy – Presentation of the capability assessment, summary of the mitigation goals and objectives, identifies actions/projects, and the implementation strategy.

Section 5: Plan Maintenance Strategy – An outline of the proposed strategy for evaluating and monitoring the 2014 Plan, updating the 2014 Plan over a five year period, incorporating plan elements into existing planning mechanisms, and continued public involvement.

SECTION 1: PLANNING PROCESS

Section 1: Planning Process refers to the requirements under §§ 201.7(b), 201.7(c)(1)(i) and (ii). Under § 201.7(c)(1) states that the plan shall document the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved, and how the public was involved.

Section Changes

- Planning Team meeting agendas and sign-in sheets are included in the Appendix.
- 'Planning Team Role' was added to Planning Team Member listing.

1.1 Planning Process Description

An effective planning process is essential in developing and maintaining a good plan. The mitigation planning process has provided the opportunity for tribal departments, businesses, other affected stakeholders, and interested parties to be involved in the planning process and the GRIC Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Planning Team. The objective was to identify members who could contribute their expertise and knowledge to assist with the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Process.

A total of three formal Planning Team meetings were conducted from September 2012 through October 2013. The Planning Team provided input, collected and documented data to revise the 2007 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and created a draft plan. The team had an opportunity to comment on the Plan up to the approval of the Plan. Input was received during formal meetings, ad hoc planning meetings, and e-mails. In addition, the Plan was posted in the Community's intranet and internet for review and input by GRIC Departments and the Community's residents. In the future, the Planning Team will be involved throughout the process with notes taken of all meetings.

The planning process and review of the draft were also integrated into other OEM workgroups. These groups included: Multi-Agency Coordination System (GRIC departments and other entities), Chemical-Tribal Emergency Response Commission (Community members from all seven political districts and key staff from departments throughout the GRIC).

For the purpose of this Plan, a brief overview of each formal planning meeting is provided below. These formal meetings were the genesis of work completed by the Planning Team. Agendas and sign in sheets are located in Appendix 3 (page 111).

Planning Team Meeting #1

The initial Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning meeting occurred on September 11, 2012. The meeting served as the official kickoff for the planning process. All identified stakeholders were invited to the meeting. The meeting allowed the stakeholders to introduce themselves and discuss why they were interested in participating in the process. Key items discussed in the meeting included:

- Defining hazard mitigation.
- Discussing and agreeing to focus on natural hazards.
- Reviewing of previous plan and discussing the need for an update; agreeing the previous plan was cumbersome and included information that could not be verified.

Gila River Indian Community Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

- Planning process to be used for updating the Plan, including public involvement, integration into other GRIC plans, and reviewing the community profile.
- Providing risk assessment process information that requires hazard identification, hazard profiling and conducting a vulnerability analysis. This included discussions on the impact and consequences for each hazard.
- Provided specific assignments to the group for the next formal meeting.

Planning Team Meeting #2

The second formal meeting occurred on October 9, 2012. The goal for the meeting was to gather information from the Planning Team based on Meeting #1 assignments and discussion on the Community profile and hazard profiles. Key items and discussions from Meeting #2 included:

- Reviewing of the multi-hazard mitigation process.
- Discussion of roles and responsibilities of the planning team.
- Need for public involvement.
- Process for hazard identification and agreement of defined hazard areas, community profile and hazard profiles.
- Documentation, identification and location of assets and critical infrastructure in GRIC.
- Reviewing of current comments, suggestions and edits.
- Identifying critical and non-critical facilities and infrastructure.

Planning Team Meeting #3

The third and final Planning Team meeting occurred on November 6, 2012. The primary goal of the meeting was to select the goals and objectives of the 2014 Plan and review the Mitigation Strategy. This required a review of previous meetings and work completed by staff. Key discussions included:

- Agreeing to critical/non-critical facilities and infrastructure for each District.
- Reviewing and revising of past and current mitigation projects.
- Revising the Mitigation Strategy.
- Selecting the goals and objectives of the 2014 Plan.
- Identifying GRIC capabilities.

At the conclusion of Meeting #3, a plan of action was agreed to. This plan of action included, but was not limited to, identifying additional projects and the additional projects status as a part of this process. This required additional meetings and correspondence to finalize the 2014 Plan and Implementation Strategy that was developed and approved by the Planning Team. There were also additional projects requested as part of drafting the Plan.

Planning Team

The planning process identified stakeholders to participate in meetings. Each stakeholder identified was based on required information for developing the 2014 Plan and to assist in drafting the 2014 Plan based on their expertise, roles and responsibilities in the Community (see Table A). Table A identifies the Planning Team and includes; "Name, Department – Agency Title and Planning Team Role". Members whose names are in bold print were also on the Planning Team for the 2007 Plan.

Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

It is important to note that the names and associated departments on the planning team listed below were in place at the time of the initial team meetings. In the future, meetings and requests for information will be directed at specific Department's and current staff. The planning team is based on the information specific to the information from the respective departments and not based on the individual.

Table A: Planning Team

| Name | Department - Agency Title | Planning Team Role |
|---|--|---|
| Ann Manuel* Pam Thompson** | Community Services - Community Services Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented District Coordinators for Districts 1-7 • Provided anecdotal information on historical data of each hazard |
| Roberto Jackson* Zuzette Kisto** | Communication & Public Affairs Office - Communication & Public Affairs Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoted and responsible for public outreach of the 2014 Plan to the public through the use of the intranet and internet. |
| Kyle Woodson* Dr. Teresa Rodrigues** | Cultural Resources Department - Project Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided cultural data and input into the Community Profile. |
| Ondrea Barber* Rudy Mix**/Will Antone** | Department of Environment Quality - Environmental Quality Project Associate/Air Quality Specialist | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided environmental issues as it relates to hazards for the hazard profiles. |
| Janice Anderson* Laverne Dallas**/Dr. Tulu** | Department of Health Resources – Director/Epidemiologist | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided public health information on issues regarding severe heat hazard. |
| Ross Schroeder* Nate Yeigh** | Department of Public Works - Acting Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided input on past and current mitigation projects related to the Department of Public Works. |
| Timothy Oliver* Steven Johnson** | Department of Transportation - Acting Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided input on past and current mitigation projects. |
| Kevin Knight* | Emergency Medical Services – Division Chief | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided research and data on deaths from heat related emergencies in GRIC. |
| Kraig Broadbent* | Fire Department - Fire Inspector | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject matter expert, adopted Fire Code • Subject matter expert and provided information on Wild land fire prone areas • Provided input into the Wild land fire hazard profile |
| John McVicker* | Facilities Maintenance - Facility Maintenance Supervisor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided input on past or current mitigation projects. |
| Kathy Dumais* | Gila River Health Care - Safety Officer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided experience and input to hazards at the hospital and healthcare issues. |

**Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014**

| Name | Department - Agency Title | Planning Team Role |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Kathy Galloway* | GRIC Utility Authority – Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority Operations Manager | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided input on Power Outage Hazards and related critical infrastructure. • Liaison to OEM during Power Outages. |
| Seaver Fields* | Land Use Planning & Zoning - Civil Engineer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided GIS data for critical and non-critical facilities and infrastructure. • Subject matter expert on flooding hazards • Provided input into past and current mitigations projects. |
| Jocelyn Young* Darin White** | Management Information Systems – Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject matter expert in technical services and provided input on computer issues |
| Robert DeLeon* Debra Sheff** | OEM - Director / Planner II | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitated development of the 2014 Plan • Organized meetings, prepared agendas and presentations |
| Shane Lindstrom* | Pima/Maricopa Irrigation Project – Agricultural Engineer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided historical data regarding the canals during flooding incidents. |
| Kathleen Elliott* Edward Alameda** | Police Department - Police Commander | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided input on impact of hazards to the community. |
| Howard Reno* Wilford Brown** | Tribal / Capital Projects - Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided input on current and future development |
| Chuck Anderson* | Gaming (Casinos) - Fire Systems/Safety Manager | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided input of hazards to the Casinos |
| Dr. Nancy Selover* | Arizona State University - State Climatologist | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advised Planning Team on climate history and terminology |
| Sue W Wood* | Arizona Division of Emergency Management - Hazard Mitigation Planner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advised the Planning Team in the Hazard Mitigation Planning Process and served as a subject matter expert. |

*Staff currently identified to represent planning team departments.

**These individuals were on the original planning team and no longer represent Department.

Gila River Indian Community Point of Contacts

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1.2 Program Integration

Under § 201.7(c)(1)(iii), the plan shall include review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, and reports. Further, under § 201.7(c)(1)(iv), the Plan shall be integrated to the extent possible with other ongoing tribal planning efforts as well as other FEMA programs and initiatives.

The Community's intention is to review existing mitigation and emergency plans to identify opportunities to integrate the plans into this 2014 Plan. The integration of other plans is an important component of the planning process and future success. By reviewing existing plans and reports, the Community can identify opportunities to integrate mitigation actions. In addition, integration provides an opportunity for consolidation of planning requirements for all tribal mitigation programs across the Community. Table B lists current resource documents reviewed and integrated to this 2014 Plan. The Planning Team determined how each of the documents can be used to identify mitigation opportunities and how the 2014 Plan planning elements can be integrated into future updates, if possible. The goal for program integration is for this updated Plan to integrate with FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives.

One example of integrating other plans into this 2014 Plan is the Flood Control Task Force of the GRIC Land Use & Zoning Department, which provided information for this 2014 Plan's Community Descriptions, Hazard Profiles and mitigation projects. Those mitigation actions and processes have been integrated into the 2014 Plan and the Community's Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Plan.

In addition to these localized integration of plans, studies, and reports, GRIC has adopted FEMA related programs and initiatives: National Incident Management System and reporting requirements; recent Stafford Act changes have been implemented; and local public and individual assistance processes and procedures have been aligned with FEMA requirements. Since the 2007 Plan, there have been no additional FEMA programs integrated into the Gila River Indian Community's mitigation planning process. However, we will continue to make efforts, if appropriate and possible, to integrate FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives.

Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

Table B: Resource Documents Reviewed and Integrated

| Identified Hazard | Name of Document | Mitigation Opportunities and Integration Characteristics |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Flooding | District 3 Master Drainage Plan (Land Use Planning & Zoning) | Provided an overview of potential mitigation projects within District 3. |
| Flooding | GRIC Reservation Wide Drainage Study | Provided a review of the water shed in the GRIC and identified potential mitigation projects. |
| Flooding | Santa Cruz River and Middle Gila River Watershed Reconnaissance Study | Provided a review of the Watershed in the GRIC and identified potential mitigation projects. |
| Wildfires | Gila River Fire Department Community Wildfire Protection Plan | Provided wild fire prone zones for mitigation planning. |
| Wildfires | BIA Pima Agency Wildland Management Plan and Fuels Management Plan | Provided wild fire prone zones for mitigation planning. |
| Severe Weather | Gila River Multi-Hazard Emergency Operations Plan | Provided hazard projects to determine mitigation projects. |
| Severe Weather | OEM Emergency Operations Center activation database report | Provided historical information for hazard profiles. |
| Severe Temperature | Gila River EOC Standard Operating Procedures | Provided job aid when responding to hazard in the community. |
| All Hazards above | Disaster Relief Emergency Assistance Plan | Provide guidance that hazard mitigation planning is in place in case of an emergency. |
| All Hazards above | District Master Plan | Provide guidance for Districts when proposing future development. |

**Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014**

1.3 Public Involvement Strategy

The Planning Team discussed the most beneficial approach to involve the public in the process of updating the Plan. The agreed methods can be found in this section. The strategy was also revised as part of the update and approval process.

The pre-draft public involvement strategy for the 2007 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan revision included attending one district meeting at each District by OEM staff. Every District in the GRIC has a regularly scheduled meeting with the constituents of each District. There is a governing body for each District and is typically attended by District Community members, Community Council members, and various invited Departments.

The same public involvement process was provided during each meeting for the 2014 Plan. The OEM was responsible for presenting the Hazard Mitigation Process and the various roles by stakeholders in preparing the 2014 Plan. Community members were provided a handout describing the purpose of the Plan and given a chance to ask questions or provide comments. Community members were also advised that the 2014 Plan was placed on the internet throughout the process for their review and comments. There were no comments, questions or input at those meetings from Community members.

The dates of the District meetings were:

- District 1: October 1, 2012 at the District 1 Service Center
- District 2: February 4, 2013 at the District 2 Service Center
- District 3: August 14, 2012 at the District 3 Service Center
- District 4: July 31, 2012 at the District 4 Service Center
- District 5: August 6, 2012 at the Veterans Building in District 5
- District 6: July 16, 2012 at the District 6 Service Center
- District 7: February 25, 2013 at the District 7 Service Center

The post-draft public involvement strategy included posting a draft of the finalized 2014 Plan on the Gila River Indian Community internet and intranet websites. Adoption of the Plan will be conducted by resolution through the Community Council.

It is also important to note that the GRIC approval process includes public discussion in the adoption process through the Community Council processes. This also provides an opportunity for additional commentary by the Public and elected officials.

The definition of "Public" was determined with input from the Planning Team. It equates to those GRIC meetings that are open to any and all enrolled GRIC members, including members who live on and off the reservation.

SECTION 2: COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

2.1 Overview

The Gila River Indian Reservation lies within the Gila River Valley in Arizona. Non-Community jurisdictions bordering GRIC includes Coolidge in the southeast, to as far as 115th Avenue, west of Phoenix (Figures 1 & 2). The Reservation is $\pm 373,365$ acres estimated by the Bureau of Land Management. The terrain consists of both mountain and desert areas, including agricultural development.

Figure 1: Overview-Planning Area

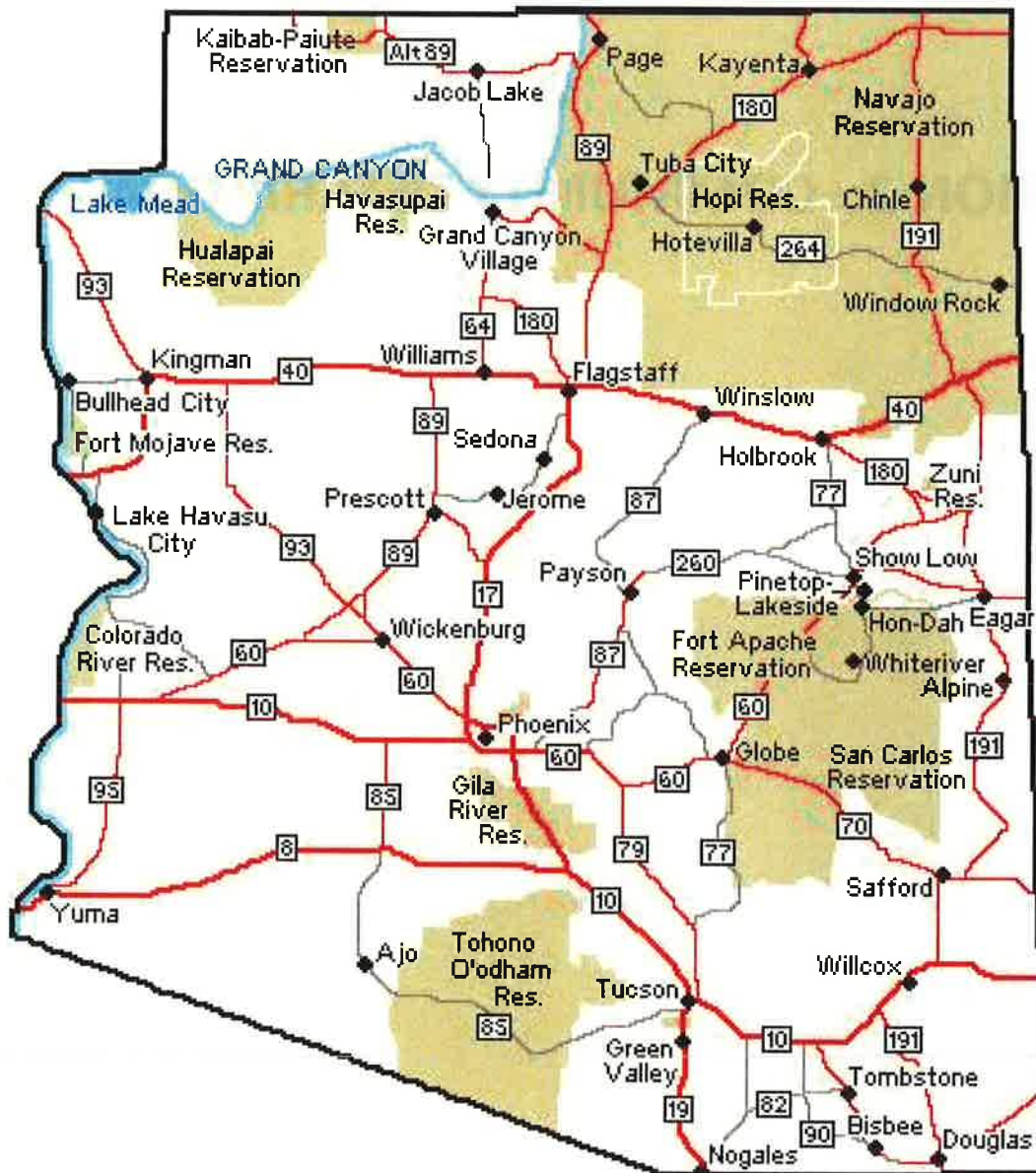
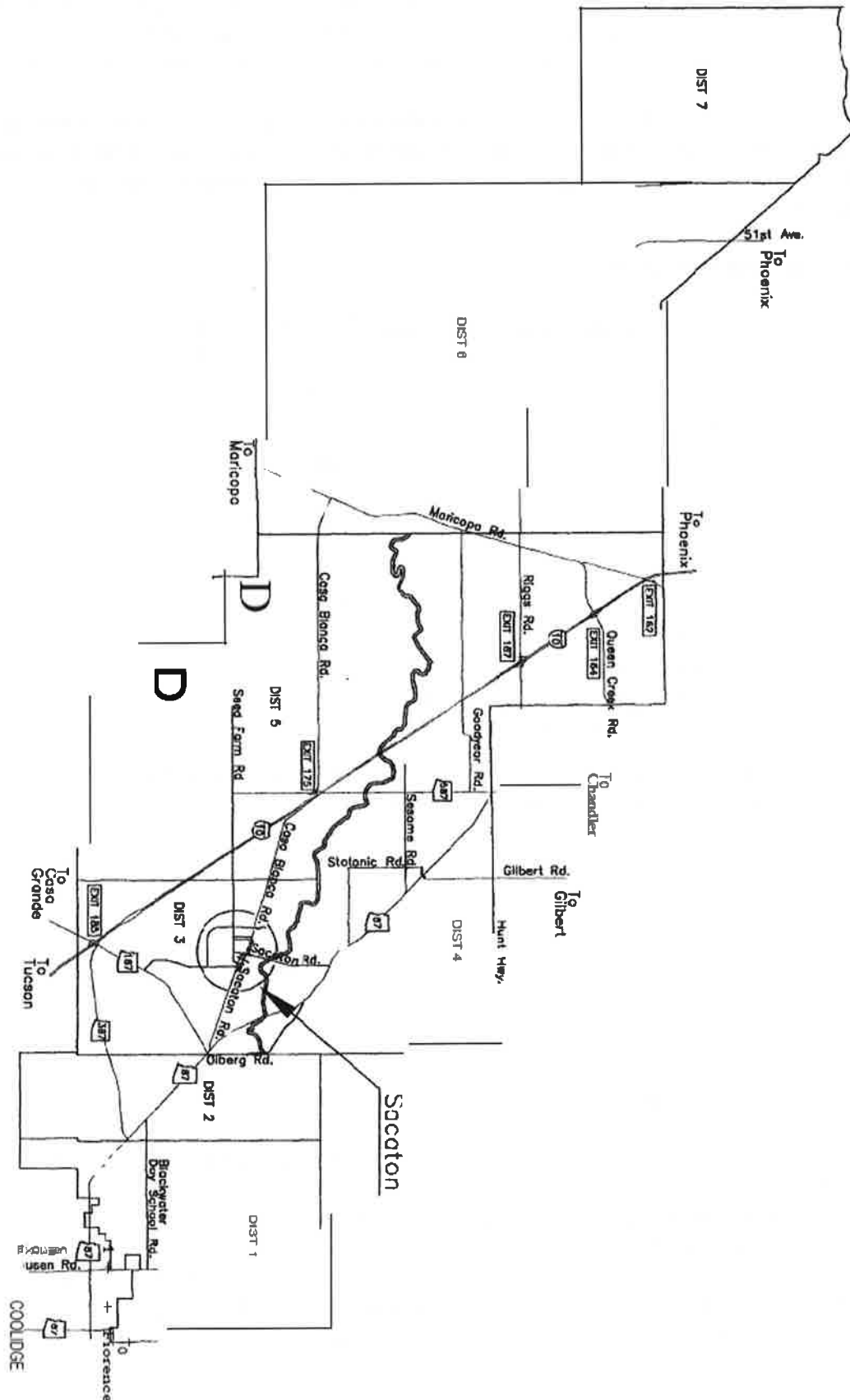


Figure 2: Gila River Indian Community



**Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014**

The Gila River, dry because of upstream diversions, runs southeast to northwest through the center of the Reservation. The GRIC falls within the Sonoran Desert biome, where non-agricultural areas contain native grasses, shrubs, trees, and succulents. The climate is arid, with averages of 7-8 inches of rain per year. Summer high temperatures average about 110°, with lows in the high 20s and 30s in the winter.

As of September 6, 2012, the GRIC Enrollment Office indicates the Community has a total membership of approximately 21,005. A total of 12,209 members reside on the Reservation and 8,796 reside off the Reservation. Refer to Figure 3 estimating enrollment by District as provided by the GRIC Enrollment Office on 10/22/12*.

Figure 3: Estimated Enrolled Members

| Estimated Enrolled Members (09/06/12) | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| District 1 | 1,157 |
| District 2 | 523 |
| District 3 | 3,080 |
| District 4 | 2,264 |
| District 5 | 2,206 |
| District 6 | 2,316 |
| District 7 | 663 |
| Off Reservation | 8,796 |
| Total On Reservation | 12,209 |
| Total Enrolled | 21,005 |

* GRIC Enrollment Office on 10/22/12

According to the Demographic profile of the United States 2010 Census, there are 2,982 households, average household size is 3.8 in the GRIC and the residential total population is 11,712. The specific data is as follows (Figure 4):

Figure 4: Enrollment Demographics

| Male | Female | <18 | 18 & 19 | 20-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65 & over |
|------|--------|------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 5538 | 6174 | 4274 | 473 | 2,557 | 2,112 | 1,621 | 675 |

Additional demographic information from the 2010 Census includes:

- There is a significant high growth rate of the surrounding areas outside of the Gila River Indian Reservation (City/County).
- The largest population group is less than 18 years old (36.5%).
- The median age is 25 years old.
- There are almost 3,000 homes in the community with an average of 4 people per home.
- 12% of all households are grandparents raising someone less than 18 years old.
- 21% of household are multi-generational, at least three generations.

2.1.1 Background

The Reservation was established by an act of Congress in 1859. The Gila River Indian Community is a federally-recognized Native American government listed in the Federal Register as required by Section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-454; 108 Stat. 4791, 4792), and as such is acknowledged to have the powers, privileges, and immunities available to other federally-acknowledged Native American tribes by virtue of their government-to-government relationship with the United States, as well as the governmental responsibilities, powers, and obligations of such Native American tribes. See 79 Fed. Reg. 4748.

Federally-recognized Native American tribes are sovereign nations not under the regulatory or political jurisdiction of any state of the United States. As such, the Community is not subject to the jurisdiction of the State of Arizona. It is an independent authority and operates in the best interest of the Community members.

2.1.2 Historical

The Community traces its roots to the Huhugam, prehistoric Native Americans who lived and farmed in the Gila River Valley centuries ago. The Community is composed of members of two tribes, the Pima (Akimel-O'odham) and Maricopa (Pee Posh) Indians. Gila River Indian Community is one of the Four Southern Tribes, including Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Tohono-O-odham Nation, and Ak-Chin Indian Community.

The Akimel O'odham, called "River People", were given the name "Pima" by the Spaniards, which is still used today. During the Historic Period, Akimel O'odham and Pee Posh inhabited the Middle Gila, and farmed thousands of acres and grew crops that originally included corn and melons and at a later date, cotton, squash, wheat, and other crops. In the mid nineteenth century, miles of canals and ditches irrigated and drained large-scale field systems on the Community. Farmers diverted the waters of the Gila into canals they had constructed with the aid of only wood, bone, and stone tools, which extended for miles. The lateral canals provided the ability to divert waters to the field of crops.

Recent community history reflects a revitalization of historical farming enterprises. Specifically, the Community has constructed a modern water delivery system (the Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project) across the Reservation.

2.1.3 Economy

The Gila River Indian Community is steadily increasing and diversifying its industrial, agricultural, retail and recreational economic base. The Community currently operates three industrial parks that are home to several local and national companies. Gaming also continues to be a positive economic development activity for the Community. Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte and Vee-Quiva are the three facilities that comprise the Gila River Casinos. Wild Horse Pass Development Authority manages the Sheraton Resort and Spa, Rawhide, and the golf course. The new Phoenix Premium Outlet Mall has brought customers from all over the Phoenix-metro area to GRIC. The golf course and resort features two world-class 18-hole golf courses and a 500-room hotel resort complex.

Gila River Indian Community Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

The GRIC prides itself on being self-sufficient. Economic development is a focus of the tribe and includes careful planning and developing skilled employees. The Tribal Projects Department and Land Use Planning and Zoning collaborate on current and future projects.

2.1.4 Agriculture

The GRIC relies on a successful agriculture industry to help fund the many important programs. Today, with a firm supply of water secured through a settlement process, the Community has restored its agricultural heritage and self-sufficiency. Growing a variety of native, traditional and commercial crops, Community farms, corporate farms and individual farmers now cultivate fruits, vegetables, small grains and other crops such as cotton, alfalfa and potatoes.

2.1.5 Manufacturing

Lone Butte Industrial Park is managed and operated by the Lone Butte Development Corporation. The Park's prime location next to Interstate 10, minutes from Sky Harbor International Airport and close proximity to the Phoenix-Metro area, provides tenants with strategic access to the entire Southwest. Lone Butte Industrial Park accommodates warehousing, light and some heavy industries, as well as research and development, high tech firms and services. Lone Butte Industrial Park has been rated the Nation's best tribal industrial park.

2.1.6 Gaming/Tourism

Gaming and motor sports racing are important reasons visitors visit Gila River. The Casinos and Rawhide Western Town provide many of the recreational venues to this area. As previously mentioned, the Community owns and operates three Gila River Casinos and a resort hotel complex. Visitors can enjoy entertainment, fine dining, nightlife and gaming at three different casinos: Wild Horse Pass hotel and casino, Lone Butte Casino, and Vee Quiva Casino. Other attractions include an equestrian center, golf courses, a tribal museum, a race-car driving school, race track, and a racing-boat course.

District General Statement

The GRIC is made up of seven political districts for the purposes of representation and administration. Each district may elect a District Council made up of a representative from each of the villages or settlements within the district. The District Council serves as the advisory board and performs local administrative duties as assigned by the Community Council.

In recent years, GRIC has completed several building projects to upgrade, enhance infrastructures and add to the quality of life. The next several years will focus on the addition of housing stock to the Districts. To gain an understanding and look for integration into this 2014 Plan, the District Land Use documents were reviewed. This provided an opportunity to gain insights to potential future projects and potential mitigation projects.

The Community's Master Plan ("Master Plan"), which describes a plan for each district, became the Planning Team's guide to understanding land use, allocation of resources for the future, and how funding was to be potentially directed toward projects within the Districts. It is important to note that

Master Plan was established as a guide and projects within the plan may still require policy and budgetary requirements not addressed in the Master Plan.

There are two major categories of land within GRIC: allotted lands, or lands that are held in trust by the federal government for use by individual Community members and heirs, and Community lands that are held in trust by the federal government for the Community. Almost all development on the GRIC occurs on Community land or through leases managed by the Community. While the Community retains jurisdiction, including planning authority over all lands (allotted and Community), Community investment typically occurs on Community lands.

The Master Plan was created with some basic process guidelines common to all Districts. Through conversations with elders, youth, leaders, and Members within the Districts, the Master Plan was drafted as a guide to decision making about improvements and investment in future capital projects.

District Guidelines for the Development of a Master Plan

- Determine whether the general area is designated for the proposed business development or the appropriate type of land use in the Master Plan.
- Examine surrounding existing development and the land use designations on the land use map.
- Consider the project in relationship to the Master Plan's goals, objectives, and strategies. The evaluation is focused on if the potential business project would fit within the vision and desires expressed in the Master Plan.
- Determine if there are any physical characteristics such as soil conditions, stream profiles, floodplains, or cultural issues that might be environmental constraints that would impact the project's development.
- Determine what infrastructure would be needed to support the proposed development and analyze the impact on existing infrastructure.

In addition to these guidelines, Members expressed a desire for an integrated network of roadways, transit, pathways and trails that connect to services, jobs, educational opportunities and recreational amenities safely and efficiently. Many of routes are in need of improvements, including pavement, signage and safety features.

2.1.7 District Descriptions

DISTRICT 1:

District 1 (Figure 5: District 1) is the second smallest and most Eastern District. It is named Shuckma hudag or Oos Kek, which translates to "Blackwater" and "Stick Stand." It is roughly 53 square miles and is home to approximately 1,133 residents. As a reference to non-Community jurisdictions, the eastern boundary of District 1 is adjacent to the Town of Florence, Arizona, while the Southern boundary is adjacent to the City of Coolidge. To the North are the Johnson Ranch and Santan Heights communities. Just southeast, beyond the District's boundaries, is the historic Casa Grande Ruins National Monument.

Gila River Indian Community Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

Casa Grande Ruins are federally protected and historically tied to the Pima people of the GRIC. The structure was built by the Huhugam ("those who have gone") people, who maintained a sophisticated irrigation system for hundreds of years until periods of low water caused most of the community to disperse. Those who stayed are the ancestors of the present day Pima and Papago Native Americans.

This District is impacted by a major offsite drainage system named McClellan Wash. It enters from the south impacting residences along the floodplain. Significant storms, lightning strikes and wind damage has occurred in the past 10 years. District 1 lies in the southeasterly monsoon path and is subject to more severe weather than some of the other districts.

A review of the District 1 Master Plan provided insights to future planning for the District and were deemed relevant to the Plan and strategies. This information is not inclusive of all elements of the District Master Plan.

Economic Activities

A key goal for the District was to expand economic and employment opportunities by pursuing economic growth and job creation strategies. An identified economic location is the re-establishment of the Blackwater Industrial Park.

Housing

Provide quality housing options for members in cohesive and safe neighborhoods. This would be provided by having in place options that suit the varying needs of members. A relevant strategy includes discouraging remote home sites that are away from existing infrastructure and are difficult to service.

Natural Resources

Preserve, maintain and enhance the natural environment and open space character of the District by protecting significant natural features and important wildlife habitats and corridors. Key strategies include identifying and protecting wildlife corridors and minimize the risk of brush fires through fire education and wash maintenance.

Recreation

Provide a range of amenities that allow members to be active and gather by providing and maintaining a range of recreational amenities. Specific strategies include supporting the development of a trail that connects the District core area (school, Service Center, etc.) in Blackwater to a Reservation-wide trail.

Capital Improvement Plan

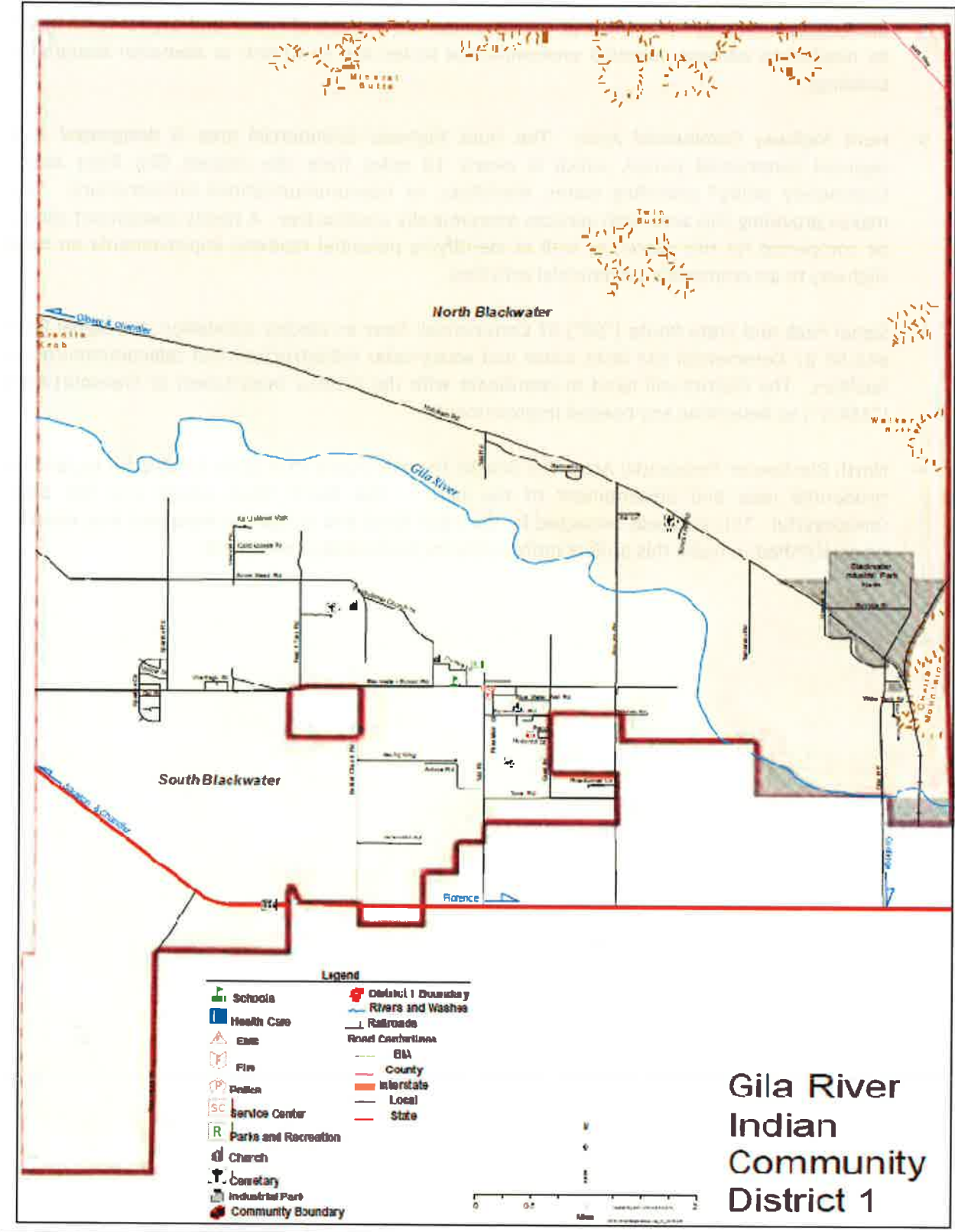
The Master Plan is intended to outline a future land use plan in order to encourage where future development occurs. As part of the process, members identified several key infrastructure projects. The following Capital Improvements Plan projects are intended only to provide potential capital projects and insights to future development.

Priority Projects for District 1

- **Blackwater Industrial Park:** Most of the roadways are in need of repair and capital funding will be needed to address potential environmental issues and to refurbish or demolish abandoned buildings.
- **Hunt Highway Commercial Area:** The Hunt Highway Commercial area is designated as a regional commercial parcel, which is nearly 10 miles from the nearest Gila River Indian Community utility? providing water, electricity, or telecommunications infrastructure. This makes providing this area with services economically unattractive. A needs assessment should be completed for this parcel, as well as identifying potential roadway improvements on Hunt Highway to accommodate commercial activities.
- **Signal Peak and State Route ("SR") 87 Commercial:** Near an electric substation, the Signal Peak and SR 87 Commercial site lacks water and wastewater infrastructure and telecommunication facilities. The District will need to coordinate with the Arizona Department of Transportation ("ADOT") to determine any needed improvements.
- **North Blackwater Residential Area:** The District has attempted to acquire funding for expanding residential uses and development of the park in the North Black village and has been unsuccessful. This area was impacted by the 1983 flood and mitigation measures may need to be established to make this project more viable for Community investment.

Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

Figure 5: District 1



DISTRICT 2:

District 2 (Figure 6: District 2) encompasses 32 square miles and is named Hashan Kek, or “Saguaro Stand.” This District contains about 500 residents. The Olberg Bridge and Sacaton Dam located within this District are a reminder of the rich history and culture of the Akimel O’odham and Pee Posh tribes. At the time of their construction in the 1920’s, they were considered substantial engineering projects. Water and farming have long been a tradition and a central part of life for the people of Hashan Kek. District 2 has similar flood, storm damage and wild fire threats that affect other districts. Primary impacts are associated with flooding from the Gila River and McClellan Wash.

The Master Plan Framework presents the District’s planning and development guidelines and the basis for the Community’s evaluation of future development proposals and planning efforts.

Economic Activities

The District desires to create sustainable economic development by maximizing the Community’s economic competitiveness. A strategy to accomplish this includes investing in the maintenance and development of the District’s infrastructure to support and attract businesses. In addition, look to potential economic opportunities on SR 87 while minimizing impact on District 2. This can be accomplished by encouraging development of an activity center at SR 87 and SR 387 that would provide retail and commercial opportunities and encourage development efforts along SR 87 with ADOT and adjacent Districts.

In addition, the District continues to support the Community’s agricultural heritage by utilizing resources gained through the water settlement to support continued and expanded agricultural enterprises within District 2.

Housing

The District desires to provide quality housing options that suit the varying needs of its members. This includes discouraging “scattering” home sites that are distant from existing infrastructure. Also, by implementing a housing maintenance program would protect the existing housing stock.

Natural Resources

The District wishes to preserve, maintain and enhance the natural environment and open space character of the GRIC District 2 area as a living resource, making sure that development harmonizes with, supports, and does not degrade its natural character. A key strategy includes minimizing risk of brush fires through fire education and riverbed/wash maintenance.

Recreation

The District would like to protect areas of historical significant for future generations by identifying and preserving historic landscapes and structures of the early inhabitants from within the District.

Capital Improvement Plan

The Master Plan is intended to outline a future land use plan in order to help promote where future development occurs. As part of the process, District Members identified several key infrastructure projects. This Capital Improvement Plan outlines key capital projects and delineates potential infrastructure improvements associated with those capital projects.

Priority Projects for District 2

District 2 Multi-Purpose Service Center: The previous Service Center was small and not large enough to handle celebrations or events. In 2012, the District received funding and completed a new module that contains kitchen facilities as an interim fix. The new Multipurpose Service Center was recently opened and was constructed adjacent to the District's ball park. The new District 2 Multi-Purpose Center has been praised for its views and beauty.

Commercial Center Development: The District desires to have retail services in close proximity. The District has identified three areas that could be developed for retail. Two of these facilities are designated as "local commercial" that could provide stores, gas stations, shops, and services. The first local commercial site is shown at approximately SR 87 and SR 187. This site could be jointly developed with the District 3 community. The second local commercial site is located at approximately SR 87 and Blackwater School Rd. The third local commercial site is within a "mixed use" area located at SR 87 and SR 387. Each site is located with transportation access. The priority projects for District 2 are for future development. The District still needs to determine what type of facilities will be built on District 2 land.

Flood Control Improvements: Historically, District 2 has experienced tremendous flooding events. Based on the Gila River Indian Community Reservation-Wide Drainage Study, the following key improvements should be developed to manage flood issues:

- Implement flood improvements at and near the Sacaton Flats subdivision at Hashan Kehk and Mish Ki roads.
- Address drainage issues that impact District 2 particularly at the intersection of Olberg Road and SR 87.
- Identify and implement solutions to repair and rehabilitate the McClellan Wash levee and drainage channel.
- Minimize off-Reservation flooding.

Olberg Road Paving Improvements: The paving improvements would be to Olberg Road from SR 87 north to the Gila River (approximately 11,000 lineal feet) and include repair and maintenance to the historic Olberg Bridge (paving improvements, landscape and multiuse trail).

DISTRICT 3:

District 3, (Figure 7: District 3) with about 3,100 residents, has the highest population on the Reservation. District 3 contains the village of Sacaton and the headquarters of tribal government. Sacaton was named after the famous giant Sacaton grass that once grew in the Gila River valley. Sacaton has grown over time and now is home to a Dialysis Center, Governance Center, Fire Station, Head Start facility, Residential Program for Youth, Domestic Violence Center, Hospital, and a Women's Health Building. In the O'odham language, Sacaton is known as Ge e Ke or "Big House," which is largely because of its historical importance as the unofficial capital of the Community. Though it is one of the smaller districts (approximately 42 square miles in size), it has always been the center of commerce and government activity for the tribe. Today, the tribal government operates in the Governance Center building, which houses many tribal departments and serves as the meeting place for tribal council and government officials.

District 3 will retain and reinvigorate the close-knit village of Sacaton and provide new opportunities for Community Members to reconnect with each other.

The Master Plan Blueprint reflects a desire to improve Member's health and "quality of life" by delineating land uses that are suitable, creating new jobs and economic activities, and providing opportunities for District Members to engage in healthy lifestyle and leisure choices.

The following goals, objectives, and strategies present the District's planning and development guidelines in the Master Plan. They provide the basis for the Community's evaluation of future development proposals and planning efforts.

Economic Activities

District 3 Members recognize the opportunity that the Interstate 10 corridor brings for commercial development. Providing commercial development on the edge of the District will make it easily accessible for District Members, provide jobs close to home, and attract shoppers from adjacent communities, but be far enough away that the traffic generated from the commercial activity will not affect the Sacaton area. The strategy will include a mixed use commercial developments on the perimeter of the Reservation (I-10/SR 187 interchange) to minimize disruption in the interior of the District.

In addition, District 3 wishes to revitalize downtown Sacaton as a vibrant and pedestrian-friendly mixed use neighborhood by revitalizing or clearing the old Community, State, Federal and utility entity office and storage yard for reuse as small local commercial or residential infill within the mixed-use neighborhood.

Housing

Historically, District 3 has been the location where Community homes have been built to temporarily house displaced Members or Members from other Districts who were waiting for their homes to be built. Temporary housing situations can sometimes last for years. Routinely cited by District Members is the need for flexibility in the housing design and floor plans, as individual family needs are different. There was also a strong desire for a return to a more traditional O'odham home and neighborhood

Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

design and less “engineered and production” design. This would be assisted by providing assistance to Members wanting to refurbish and reuse existing buildings and/or home sites and ensuring they incorporate environmentally sensitive design features, energy efficiency and low maintenance.

Natural Resources

The Master Plan goal for District 3 is to preserve, maintain and enhance the natural environment and open space character of the Gila River Indian Community area as a living resource. District 3 wants to ensure development supports, and does not degrade, its natural character.

The Master Plan preserves the corridor along the Gila River. The Gila River was once a large riparian area enjoyed by families; however, clearing of vegetation has left the river banks scarred. The Master Plan also preserves much of the Sacaton Mountains and its steep slopes and cultural areas so that Members can enjoy the unspoiled beauty of the mountains. District Members desire the reintroduction of the native mesquite and cottonwood vegetation within the desert and along the Gila River.

Recreation

Water is an important cultural element and it is the primary reason for proposing a new District park (Olberg Recharge Lake/Park) south of the Gila River near Olberg Road. The Community has water from the Arizona Water Settlement Act that needs to be used and not wasted. A large recharge lake, when designed correctly, is an environmentally sensitive and sustainable way to address the Community’s water requirements while creating a wildlife refuge, fishing amenity and picnic area for Members to enjoy.

The Master Plan proposes a second District park (Service Center Park) in conjunction with the existing District Service Center and extending west to Sacaton Road and north to the Gila River.

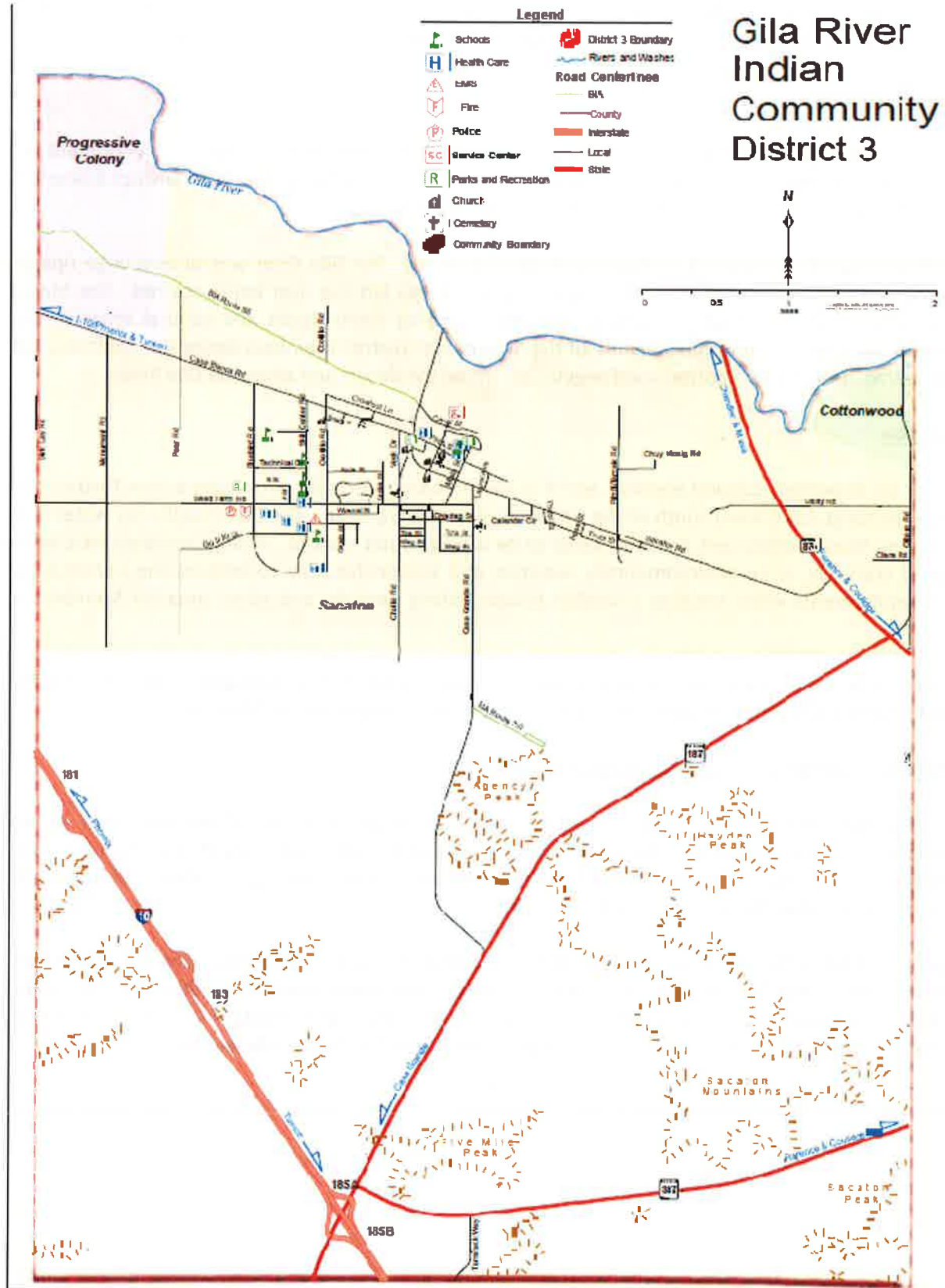
Capital Improvement Plan: Priority Projects for District 3

The Seed Farm Road Improvements would be in conjunction with the development of a new interchange at Interstate 10 and Seed Farm Road. The added interchange would benefit District 3 by providing a direct route from Interstate 10 to the Community. A roadway design study will need to be initiated to determine the specific design and costs.

The proposed North Sacaton Road Improvements involves the resurfacing and widening of Sacaton Road from Casa Blanca Road north to the Gila River. A design study would need to be initiated to determine the specific roadway improvement design and costs. Additionally, a park master plan would need to be undertaken to determine the feasibility, cost and programming for the park development.

Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

Figure 7: District 3



DISTRICT 4

District 4 (Figure 8: District 4), also known as the Santan District, is large and unique in that it is comprised of seven distinct villages: Santan (upper and lower), Stotonic, Chandler Heights, Gila Butte, Goodyear, and East Lone Butte Village. The Santan mountain range played a role in the history of District 4 as do many other aspects of the land surrounding the community. District 4 is 120 square miles and has seen the greatest amount of industrial growth relative to other districts.

District 4 boundaries contain an array of world-class sports and recreation venues, as well as a host of tribal, commercial, and agricultural businesses that are owned and operated by the Community. Areas of concern include the possible hazardous materials due to the Fertizona plant and accidents along Interstate 10 corridor and other roads. District 4 is particularly susceptible to the monsoon storm damage because of the southerly monsoon weather patterns and lack of protection from the mountains.

District 4 wishes to balance opportunities for local economic development in conjunction with a public transit system will provide families the means to improve their lifestyle while also continuing to teach traditional values and recognize the cultural heritage of the Pima Indians. Members desire community-oriented projects focused around the Service Center with sensitive and fair distribution of the improvements to the four village zones. Members seek opportunities to enhance family values, influence decisions regarding public improvements for schools, streets, subdivisions, parks, trails, and the ability to provide a safe environment for family events. Above all, District 4 desires to protect their quiet, rural lifestyle and agricultural heritage, while providing an economic future based on traditional values.

Economic Activities

District 4 seeks to become economically diverse to create sustainable economic development. A key strategy includes identifying viable parcels with frontage on Interstate 10, Loop 202, SR 347, SR 587, SR 87, and along major arterial roads including Riggs Road, Queen Creek Road, Kyrene Road and McClintock Road.

Natural Resources

The District seeks to preserve, maintain and enhance the natural environment and open space character in the area. This can be best accomplished by protecting significant natural features and important wildlife habitats and corridors.

Capital Improvement Plan: Priority Projects for District 4

A District priority is to develop an activity center at Interstate 10 & Riggs Road to generate employment opportunities. Prime freeway exposure and regional arterial access only require utility services to take advantage of its market potential. District 4 wishes to promote an activity center at SR 347 & Riggs Road. The SR 347 provides the primary north-south circulation route for the city of Maricopa to access the greater Phoenix Metropolitan area.

Gila River Indian Community
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014

Figure 8: District 4

