**Land Acknowledgement for Maricopa County**

We respectfully acknowledge that we gather on the ancestral and traditional territories of the O'odham (Pima and Papago) and Piipaash (Maricopa) peoples, who have stewarded this land throughout generations. We specifically recognize the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Gila River Indian Community, the Ak-Chin Indian Community, and the Tohono O'odham Nation, whose past, present, and future relationship with these lands continues to hold great cultural, spiritual, and historical significance.

This area, known today as Maricopa County, lies at the heart of the Sonoran Desert, where Indigenous peoples created sophisticated canal systems and developed innovative desert farming techniques that sustained communities for millennia. The ancient Hohokam civilization's extensive canal network laid the foundation for modern Phoenix's water infrastructure, demonstrating the profound indigenous knowledge of sustainable desert living.

We acknowledge that this land recognition is only a small step toward addressing the erasure of Indigenous histories and experiences. We commit to:

**Honoring the Sovereignty of Native Nations**

Supporting Indigenous communities' contemporary presence and ongoing contributions

Learning from traditional ecological knowledge and sustainable practices

Promoting awareness of Indigenous histories, cultures, and perspectives

***This acknowledgment is a living document that reflects our ongoing commitment to respect, partnership, and understanding with the Indigenous peoples of this region.***