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## April 19 Issue of "Under the Dome" – a newsletter from Pima County Administrator Jan Leshar

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# UNDER THE DOME

The Pima County Administrator's Newsletter 

*From the Desk of Jan Leshar, Pima County Administrator*

*Vol. 3, No. 5 - April 19, 2024*

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My Under the Dome Newsletter arrives in your inbox twice a month. If you know of other people who might want to get this semi-monthly update from me, have them [CLICK HERE](#), add their email, and select "County Administrator Newsletter - Jan Leshar's Updates" from the list of subscriber topics.

If you have questions, concerns, or good news of your own to share, you can reach me at [jan.lesher@pima.gov](mailto:jan.lesher@pima.gov). If you've seen enough, you can click the unsubscribe link at the bottom of the page.

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## Keep an eye out April 26 for my recommended Fiscal Year 2024 budget

Every April, the County Administrator submits a recommended budget to the Board of Supervisors that serves as the foundational budget for consideration by the Board for adoption for next fiscal year, which starts July 1. Keep an eye out on the County website, [pima.gov](http://pima.gov), on April 26 for my recommended budget to the Board. Budget writing is a nearly year-long process and we've been working hard to hold the line on the tax rate and continue to meet the needs of our County.

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## Popular Pima IDA mortgage assistance helps first-time homebuyers

The Pima County Industrial Development Authority, which is appointed by the Board of Supervisors, has been assisting first-time homebuyers qualify for low-interest loans with successive rounds of \$25 million in down payment assistance. The Board-approved latest round was made available Tuesday, April 16, and the \$25 million was reserved by lenders within two hours. Since 2023, Pima County IDA has funded \$100 million in mortgage assistance, which helped nearly 400 homebuyers purchase their first home. Another \$50 million in IDA assistance is planned for later this year.

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## County receives nearly \$22 million to continue asylum seeker sheltering

In my last Under the Dome, I let you know further federal shelter funding had averted a humanitarian crisis by allowing the continuance of the temporary sheltering and transportation assistance of legally processed asylum seekers released by U.S. Border Patrol in Cochise, Santa Cruz, and Pima counties. But we didn't know yet how much funding we were going to get. Last Friday we learned the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has awarded Pima County an allocation of \$21.8 million, which should allow sheltering operations to continue through most of this year. Meanwhile, we continue to review ways to stretch every dollar to keep people off the streets of Tucson for as long as possible.

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## New Climate Action Newsletter

Pima County, City of Tucson, City of South Tucson, Town of Oro Valley, and the Tohono O'odham Nation joined together in a local partnership to bring in a significant amount of federal funding to improve our air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance workforce opportunities in a green economy, and address environmental injustices in disadvantaged communities. You can keep up with progress of this effort through a County newsletter, [Pima CAN!](#). Use the link below to read the newsletter and sign up by selecting "Environmental Quality."

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## We're No. 7 out of 15 when it comes to County per capita taxation

The Arizona Department of Revenue each year aggregates all the property taxes and sales taxes collected in each County and divides that number against the total population to determine an estimate of taxation per capita. In the link below you'll see that six other

Counties have a higher per capita total taxation ratio than Pima County. Maricopa County has the second highest total per capita.

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