

Freeport-McMoRan Announces 2016 Greenlee County Community Investment Fund Grant Recipients

Morenci, AZ (December 14, 2016) – Grant recipients for the 2016 Greenlee County Community Investment Fund process have been selected. Four local projects will be recognized and receive a total of \$260,000 in grants at an awards ceremony held as part of the Greenlee County Chamber of Commerce Mixer on Wednesday, December 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Morenci Club.

The Greenlee County Community Investment Fund (CIF) was established in 2011 as part of Freeport-McMoRan's objectives to support sustainable benefits for operating communities and to assist the community in appropriate ways to ensure their self-sufficiency beyond the presence of Freeport-McMoRan operations. The CIF is administered by an investment committee comprised of community leaders selected by the Greenlee County Community Partnership Panel (CPP), a stakeholder engagement process that was established to foster open and ongoing dialog with the community and create opportunities for the company and the community to work together to develop thoughtful solutions that address community issues.

Since 2011, the Greenlee County Community Investment Fund has invested over \$1.7 million in locally-identified projects affecting positive change in the following community priority areas identified by CPP members: Community Pride & Appearance, Economic Development, Education, Environment, Family & Youth Activities and Health & Wellness.

2016 Grant Recipients Include:

Gila Watershed Partnership

Project: Erosion Control Structures Supporting Water Quality in Greenlee County – \$40,000

Grant funds will be used to develop a comprehensive approach to improving water quality in the San Francisco and Blue River watersheds. Building erosion control structures, reintroducing native vegetation and deploying an education and outreach campaign to engage local students and community members will ensure a long-term positive impact on the watersheds. Building collective understanding of the importance of these watersheds will ensure that the San Francisco and Blue River watersheds continue to be valuable assets within Greenlee County.

Town of Clifton

Project: Clifton Wastewater Treatment Plant Preliminary Engineering Report – \$140,000

Investment will support a preliminary engineering report for much needed improvements to the aging Clifton Wastewater Treatment Plant and collection system to ensure that valuable infrastructure is in place to support existing and future economic development. The current wastewater treatment plant serves 449 homes and 102 businesses. The preliminary engineering report is the first step of many in securing an adequate wastewater treatment facility for current and future Clifton residents and businesses.

Town of Duncan**Project: Hunter Estates Waterline Project – \$70,000**

Grant funds will support the final phase of the Hunter Estates Waterline Project that will ensure additional water capacity for a number of stakeholders, including the local school, homeowners and businesses. Securing the long-term availability of water provides an immediate benefit to existing community members while supporting ongoing development activities in Duncan.

**University of Arizona Foundation/Greenlee County Cooperative Extension
Duncan Elementary School Garden – \$10,000**

In an effort to teach local students about nutrition and provide them hands-on STEM learning experiences, Greenlee County Cooperative Extension will partner with Duncan Elementary Schools to establish a garden that will serve as an outdoor classroom. Students will actively participate in the management of the garden and the produce raised will be incorporated into the school's cafeteria program. This comprehensive approach will ensure that students are well-equipped to make informed decisions about their nutrition and have access to fresh produce in hopes of addressing obesity within Greenlee County.

"The key to sustainable communities is the development of a strong set of diverse assets including things like varied sources of economic revenue and jobs, quality schools that support local workforce development, preventative social and health services that reduce the higher cost of urgent hospital care and government services," said Tracy Bame, President of the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation. "We appreciate and commend the efforts of the Greenlee Investment Fund Committee as well as local nonprofits and government, academic institutions and citizens, to consider the kinds of community projects that will best support the needs of the area and the goal to achieve greater sustainability."

Information about Freeport-McMoRan community investments and programs may be obtained by visiting FreeportInMyCommunity.com or by contacting Southeastern Arizona Community Development staff members Emily Muteb: emuteb@fmi.com or (928)865-6235 or Sean Wenham: swenham@fmi.com or (928)865-7623.