

Tucson's Mayor Commits to Planting A Million Trees for Climate Change

Tucson's mayor Regina Romero has committed to planting a million trees by 2030. In February Romero joined the U.S chapter of the 1.t.org Stakeholder Council, a group of leaders committed to the restoration of one trillion trees around the world. The U.S chapter has committed to a billion trees.

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Romero plans to prioritize tree planting in lower-income communities that are often disproportionately affected by Tucson's urban heat island effect. This is largely due to a lack of green space.

Rainwater will be the primary fuel for the million trees initiative. When Romero entered office, she and her council approved a green stormwater infrastructure fee, which charges the average residential water-user \$1 per month. Over the next three years, the fee will generate up to \$7 million for sustainable stormwater harvesting in parks, streets, and parking lots, according to Romero.

Planting a Million Trees in the Semi-Arid Desert to Combat Climate Change

Planting trees is linked to better air, lower temperatures, and increased biodiversity.