

PIMA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

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For immediate release
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Pima Association of Governments, employee win gold, merit awards

Pima Association of Governments, for the second year in a row, received a gold award in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Best Workplaces for Commuters Race to Excellence. The national competition encourages and recognizes organizations and individuals who promote commuter benefits, transportation choices and the Best Workplaces for Commuters designation. Out of 55 winners in the Race to Excellence, PAG was one of only seven networks that received the gold award. PAG's BWC efforts are led by **Mary Ann Soto**, who helps employers qualify for the designation. The program has 29 designated employers and Soto is working to qualify another 19 for this year.

Gayle Johnson, Pima Association of Governments' lead staff on its regional Vanpool Incentive Program, will receive a "merit award" from Indian Health Service at its Honor Awards Ceremony on July 14 for her assistance with the vanpool program at the Sells Indian Health Services facility. Currently, nine vans travel to the facility, taking 81 cars off the road to Sells. The regional Vanpool Incentive Program has a total of 17 vans at participating employers.

Pima Association of Governments received three 2006 Cactus Quill Merit Awards from the International Association of Business Communicators-Tucson. The awards, which recognize excellence in business communications, were awarded for PAG's quarterly Regional Outlook newsletter, its internal employee e-newsletter and a special brochure which profiled members of the Regional Transportation Authority's Citizens Advisory Committee, which recommended the 20-year, \$2.1 billion transportation plan that was approved by Pima County voters on May 16.