

COMMUNITY

# PRIDES, county partnership essential

## Working together to keep community beautiful

By Art Huseonica  
SPECIAL TO INDEPENDENT  
NEWSMEDIA

The Sun City PRIDES will soon start another season of working to keep Sun City beautiful.

It would be impossible to accomplish this without the close working relationship that the PRIDES have with the Maricopa County Department of Transportation, according to officials of both organizations.

“MCDOT’s mission is to provide transportation infrastructure (primarily roads) and related services to the people within Maricopa County so they can live, work, conduct business and travel in a safe environment,” according to the MCDOT website, [www.mcdot.maricopa.gov](http://www.mcdot.maricopa.gov). “MCDOT is led by the Transportation Director and is

governed by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.”

This relationship has not gone unnoticed by District 4 Maricopa County Supervisor Clint Hickman. He regularly extolls the virtues of the unique relationship that helps to significantly reduce costs to the county government.

“The PRIDES do a fantastic job through the support of the county’s transportation department,” said Sun City resident Ken Smith, PRIDES president. “We are in regular communication; in fact, at least one representative always attends the PRIDES monthly meetings.”

Key to the liaison is the support provided by Oscar Pena, a crew leader for the Maricopa County Department of Transportation.



His expertise ensures a smooth operation every time the county provides support to a PRIDES project, such as weed spraying, repairing potholes and planting desert vegetation along Sun City’s boulevards and avenues, Mr. Smith explained. Visit [www.suncityprides.com](http://www.suncityprides.com).

**Editor’s Note: A Sun City resident and active PRIDES member, Mr. Huseonica handles publicity for the organization.**



Maricopa County Department of Transportation Team Leader Oscar Pena with one of the trees he helped Sun City PRIDES plant in the community. [Submitted photo/Art Huseonica]