

# Impact Summary



## Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Area AMEX Planting Arizona Sustainability Alliance

Phoenix, AZ

### Project Goals

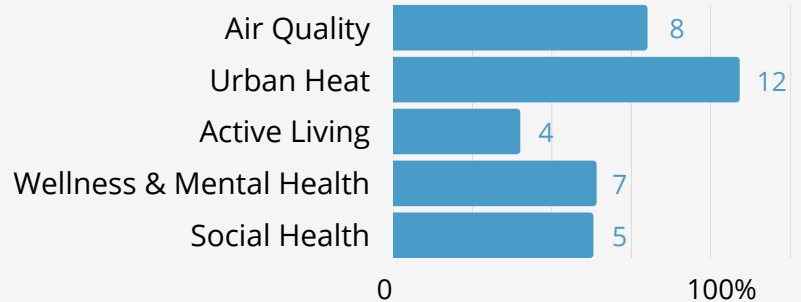
Arizona Sustainability Alliance (AZSA), in partnership with American Forests, planted 45 trees along multi-use trails at the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Area. A former dumpsite, the park is located in a heavily industrialized area that per the CDC is ranked in the top 2% in the country for environmental burden. Rates of chronic respiratory and heart disease are greater than the citywide average, and residents, majority of whom are people of color, overwhelmingly live in poverty. The trees planted will filter industrial air pollutants, mitigate urban heat, promote outdoor recreation, and improve soil health, habitat, and water quality in the Salt River watershed.



### Human Health



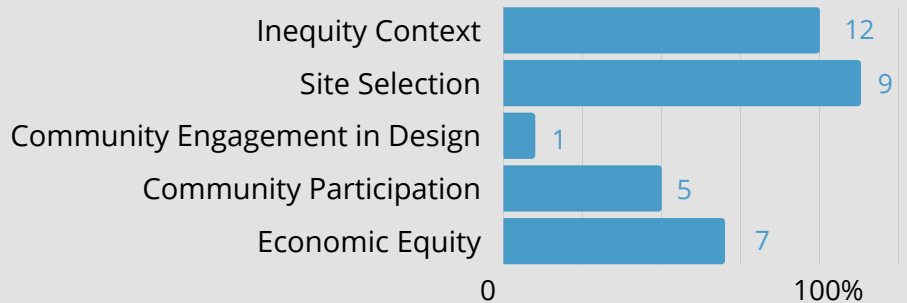
**36/50**  
Excellent



### Social Equity



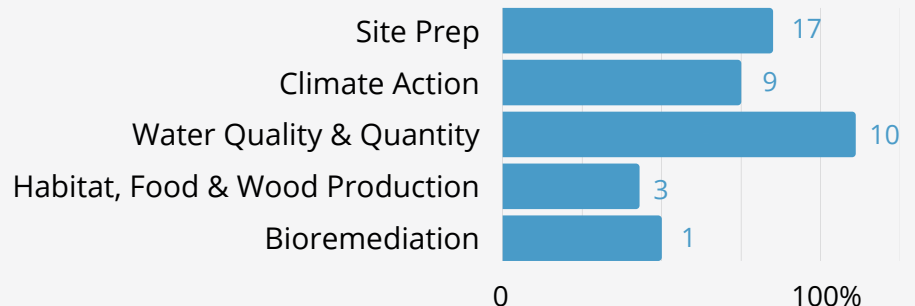
**34/50**  
Excellent



### Environment



**40/50**  
Exceptional



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## Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Area AMEX Planting



### Improve air quality, promote recreation, mitigate urban heat

For planting day, AZSA brought together volunteers from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, including American Express, the City of Phoenix, the Audubon Center, American Forests, and Tiger Mountain Foundation, a grassroots workforce development program. The new trees lining the trails will shade the paths of bikers, runners, and walkers who visit the park year-round. This project is part of a wider, decades-long effort to restore the native riparian and wetland ecosystems of Rio Salado and create accessible greenspaces for the community.

### UN Sustainable Development Goals



Improve air quality, reduce pollutants



Improve stormwater management



Local sourcing of materials, workforce training



Increase tree equity



Inclusive access to greenspaces



Reduce urban heat



Deliver local climate action, quantify benefits



Expand riparian habitat



Multi-sector partnerships

### Quantified Benefits

Projected values (avoided costs) for ecosystem benefits per year in 25 years

#### Carbon Sequestration

29 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>  
\$736 (at \$25/ton)

#### Rain Interception

109 m<sup>3</sup>/year  
\$138 per year

#### Air Quality

O<sub>3</sub>: 0.004 t/yr  
NO<sub>x</sub>: 0.002 t/yr  
PM<sub>10</sub>: 0.004 t/yr  
\$95 per year

#### Energy Savings

Electricity - 4,847 kWh/yr  
Natural Gas - 3,115 kBtu/yr  
\$585 per year