



# CITY OF TUCSON

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **UDALL PARK BILL PASSES U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

The Udall Park Land Exchange Completion Act (H.R. 1547) passed the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday on a 401-0 vote. The bill now advances to the U.S. Senate. The bill would finalize a 28-year-old land exchange between the City of Tucson and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The legislation would allow the City of Tucson to own outright the 172.8-acre parcel of land on which Udall Park sits. The measure was led by U.S. Rep. Martha McSally with the support of the Arizona congressional delegation.

"Passage of this bill allows the city to plan for enhanced amenities at Udall Park, a popular destination for families on the east side of town," said Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. "My thanks to the bill's authors, Senator Flake, Senator McCain and Representative McSally, and the rest of the Arizona Congressional delegation for their bipartisan support of the bill."

Documents from the 1989 land exchange indicate it was the intention of the BLM to transfer full title to the City for Udall Park without any constraints on how to develop it. Due to staffing changes and other reasons, the deal was never finalized, and commercial activity currently is prohibited.

"I'm grateful I was able to assist in getting this bill to move forward," said Ward 2 Tucson City Council Member Paul Cunningham. "Udall Park is important for youth sports and used by city residents of all ages. This measure opens up opportunities to expand and improve the park."

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