



# TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE:	February 27, 2025	TIME:	1:00 PM
PLACE:	City of Casa Grande Council Chambers, 510 E. Florence Blvd., Casa Grande, AZ 85122 Call in Number - 1-408-418-9388 Access Code – 24826330616#		
	520-705-5153 Jason's Cell		
Shaded items are action items: Action may not be taken on any other items on the agenda.			
	TAC Members	Guests/Staff	
Attendees:	Duane Eitel, Casa Grande	Jason Bottjen, SCMPO	Aubree Perry, ADOT (T)
	Ben Navarro, Coolidge	Irene Higgs, SCMPO	
	Tara Harman, Pinal County	Natalie Stephens, Casa Grande	
	Will Randolph, ADOT (T)	Deb Brunner, Casa Grande	
	Matt Rencher, Eloy		(T): Attended by phone
AGENDA ITEM			
1	Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions		1:00 PM
2	Title VI Statement		
3	Call to the Public: This item is to provide an opportunity for citizens wishing to address the Technical Advisory Committee on issues within the jurisdiction of the Sun Corridor MPO planning area that are not on the Agenda. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes or less.		
	A Call to the Public was made and no member of the public was present.		
4	RTAC Update (Information Only)		
	Kevin Adam was not in attendance.		
5	ADOT Planner Report (Information Only)		
	Will Randolph provided the attached update.		
6	ADOT Southcentral District Report (Information Only)		
	Priscilla Thompson provided the attached update.		
7	FHWA Report (Information Only)		
	Romare Truly provided the following update. • The FHWA Division office and FTA Region IX have been allowed to process approvals again without routing them through Headquarters. There was about a 30-day period where all approval actions typically handled at the FHWA Division level were required to be reviewed by the USDOT's Office of General Counsel before the FHWA Division and FTA Region IX could proceed. • There are no current restrictions on any formula funds, with the exception of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program, which is on hold pending updated guidance.		
8	Air Quality Update (Information Only)		
	Jason Bottjen gave the following update: • SCMPO January 2025 Air Quality Conformity □ The AQ TIP Amendment and Conformity Analysis were approved by the Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board on January 14, 2025. □ A letter requesting a Finding of Conformity was sent to the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration on January 15, 2025. □ The Federal Highway Administration Division Office is preparing letters to issue conformity findings for the SCMPO TIP and MAG's RTP and TIP. • SCMPO June 2025 (Winter 2024) Air Quality Conformity □ The updated Air Quality Project List was sent to the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) on Tuesday December 3, 2024. □ Sun Corridor MPO Staff worked with member agencies and MAG to address comments; all comments received from MAG were addressed, and the MAG modeling process is almost complete. □ The 30-day review and public comment period is tentatively scheduled for April 24 to May 24. □ Please send me your in-kind worksheets for the time spent updating your agency's AQ project list if you haven't done so.		
9	MPO Update (Information Only): • MPO Progress Report (9.1) • Federal Ledger (9.2) • Project Update (9.3) • Letters of Support (9.4) • Safe Routes to School Studies Update (9.5) • ADOT HSIP Program Update (9.6) • ADOT TA Program Update (9.7) • ADOT 2025 Revised Safety Performance Targets (9.8)		

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**9.1: MPO Progress Report**  
•Staff meetings & activities

**9.2: Federal Ledger**

- \$110,160.19 in STBG from project close-outs was added to our ledger (there is an agenda item today to apply this funding to two HSIP projects that are underfunded).
- All remaining OA (Obligation Authority) for FY25 is being loaned to ADOT with repayment to SCMPO in FY26.
- RTP 2028
- New positions
- Scoping Program
- Contingency funds

**9.3: Design Progress Report**

- T0618: Ash Avenue Roundabout (Casa Grande) (pages 8-9 in the agenda packet)
- The IGA for this project is going to the Casa Grande City Council on April 7th. The project has been designed up to 90% for the and will comply with federal requirements and advertisement by ADOT.
- F0642: SR387 - Viola St and Pinal Ave HAWK (page 10 in the agenda packet)
- Stage IV 95% was submitted in January. We are currently working on the Utility and ROW clearances prior to 100%. Advertisement is anticipated in May.
- T0472: City of Eloy – Battaglia Dr & Tweedy Rd, Intersection Lighting (pages 14 – 15 in the agenda packet)
- The Stage V submittal is complete with all clearances. The packet is under review with ADOT's Engineering Consultants Section (ECS), and construction authorization is expected in the next two weeks. (02.26.2025)

**9.4: Letters of Support**

- Four letters of support have been provided by Sun Corridor MPO
- Coolidge Airport 2025 RAISE Grant
- Casa Grande Kortsen TI 2025 RAISE Grant
- Casa Grande Florence Blvd Streetscape 2025 RAISE Grant
- AzTA Communications Plan

**9.5: Safe Routes to School Studies**

- City of Casa Grande Safe Routes to Study
  - The Study Kick-off Meeting took place February 7, 2025.
  - Data collection has started.
  - The consultant is working on a study introduction email to send to all Casa Grande schools as well as the study Project Management Plan, Public Involvement Plan, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Four Factor Analysis.
- City of Coolidge Safe Routes to Study
  - The project kick-off meeting took place on December 17, 2024; Sun Corridor MPO and City staff attended.
  - The first Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting took place February 4, 2025.
  - o Discussed Roles and Responsibilities.
  - o Reviewed and modified data collection locations at each school.
  - o Reviewed the student and parent surveys.
  - The study Consultant has completed the Project Management Plan (PMP), Public Involvement Plan (PIP), and the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Four Factor Analysis.
  - School observations for all Coolidge schools are scheduled for March 4th and 5th (consultant will be using three teams each day).
  - Updated this morning: Schools have begun to send out the link for the Parent Survey and Public Coordinate mapping tool. We've received 15 survey responses and quite a few comments on the mapping tool.

**9.6: ADOT Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Update**

- There have been substantial changes to the FY27/FY28 HSIP schedule.
- Updated schedule:
- October 22, 2024 - Scoping list submitted to PRB
- November 12, 2024 – It was determined that the ADOT Traffic Safety Section would manage the scoping projects, not the Project Management Group (approximately 70 scoping projects)
- November 15, 2024 - State Transportation Board Approved the "Initial Project List" (originally scheduled for July 19, 2024)
- March 14, 2025 - Eligibility Letters Completed
- May 30, 2025 - JPAs signed and local contributions (5.7% local match - \$2,280/project) sent to ADOT
- If any member agencies HSIP applications have been chosen for scoping, they will need to pay the 5.7% local match prior to May 30th.
- July 7, 2025 - Scoping to start
- September 19, 2025 - Scoping complete
- Scoping does not guarantee design and construction funding
- October 3, 2025 - Final ranking of revised applications
- October 21, 2025 - List submitted to PRB for approval
- November 5, 2025 - List submitted for PPAC approval
- November 15, 2025 - State Transportation Board Approved the "Final Project List" (originally scheduled for April 18, 2024)
- After State Transportation Board approval - Eligibility letters will be issued after State Transportation Board approval
- Completed actions:
- All projects entered into eSTIP
- 75% of projects have been established in Project Master and TRACS and Federal Aid Numbers have been issued
- Work has started on the JPAs
- Coordination has been started for POs for Consultants
- PRB Forms were submitted on Feb 25, 2025
- Preparation of scoping eligibility letters is under way

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

	<p><b>9.7: ADOT TA Program Update</b>  •ADOT is in the process of revising the online application and resources for the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program in preparation for a 2025 Call for Projects for FY 2026 funding. There has not been a definitive answer from ADOT on when the call will be, but our best guess is that it is a few months away.</p> <p><b>9.8: ADOT 2025 Revised Safety Performance Targets</b>  •On August 31, 2024 the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) formally established Safety Projections (Targets) for the state of Arizona for 2025  •The 2025 Arizona Safety Performance Projections (Targets) established by ADOT are as follows:  <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Number of Fatalities: 1263.8  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT: 1.665  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Number of Serious Injuries: 3729.6  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT: 4.914  <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities &amp; Serious Injuries: 846.6  •180 days to adopt or establish our own targets.  •Sun Corridor will adopt the new ADOT Targets. (September 12, 2017, the Sun Corridor MPO sent a letter adopting the Safety Performance Targets in perpetuity).  •Irene Higgs, Sun Corridor MPO Executive Director sent an email to the new ADOT Safety Programs Manager Amirul Rajib, confirming that Sun Corridor MPO intends to adopt the Safety Performance Targets in perpetuity.</p>	
10	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Consent Agenda</b>  All items listed below with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine matters and will be enacted by one motion and one vote of the Technical Advisory Committee. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a TAC member or member of the public so requests. In the event of a request, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Business: Possible Discussion and/or Action on the Following:</p>	
	<p><i>Matt Rencher made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ben Navarro seconded.</i></p>	
10.1*	Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the December 12, 2024 TAC Meeting	<b>APPROVED 5-0 as part of the Consent Agenda</b>
	<p><i>By a 5-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, the Meeting Minutes from the December 12, 2024 TAC meeting was approved.</i></p>	
10.2*	Recommend Approval of Amendment #13 to the FY 2023-2027 Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Program	<p><b>Item 10.2 was pulled from the consent agenda and acted on in its normal sequence on the agenda.</b>  <b>APPROVED 5-0</b></p>
	<p><i>Matt Rencher made a motion to approve item 10.2. Ben Navarro seconded.</i></p>	
11	Recommend Adoption of the FY 2025 City of Casa Grande Pay Scale	<b>APPROVED 5-0</b>
	<p><i>Ben Navarro made a motion to approve item #11. Tara Harman seconded.</i></p>	
12	Recommend Approval of Amendment #3 to the Sun Corridor MPO Technical Advisory Committee Bylaws	<b>APPROVED 5-0</b>
	<p><i>Matt Rencher made a motion to approve item #12. Ben Navarro seconded.</i></p>	
13	Recommend Approval to advertise, negotiate, and select a Transportation Planning Manager	<b>APPROVED 5-0</b>
	<p><i>Ben Navarro made a motion to approve item #13. Tara Harman seconded.</i></p>	
14	Recommend Approval to advertise, negotiate, and select an Operations Manager	<b>APPROVED 5-0</b>
	<p><i>Ben Navarro made a motion to approve item #14. Matt Rencher seconded.</i></p>	
15	Recommend Adoption of the Pinal County Strategic Transportation Safety Plan Update	<b>APPROVED 5-0</b>
	<p><i>Tara Harman made a motion to approve item #15. Ben Navarro seconded.</i></p>	
16	Local Government Project Report: Casa Grande, Coolidge, Eloy, Pinal County	

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

	<p><i>Ben Navarro provided the following update for Coolidge:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Wrapping up projects for this Fiscal Year.</i></li> <li>• <i>Raymond Street project should be starting in June.</i></li> <li>• <i>Woodruff, Curry to Signal Peak is a new project starting soon.</i></li> <li>• <i>The City is working with Procter &amp; Gamble to confirm start of the Procter &amp; Gamble Road Improvements project</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Duane Eitel provided the following update for Casa Grande:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Trekell Road Project (Rodeo to McCartney) is under construction and should be completed later this year.</i></li> <li>• <i>McCartney (Trekell to I-10, Phase II underway.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Matt Rencher provided the following update for Eloy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sunland Gin Widening project is at 60% plans. April 10th Community Outreach Meeting and working to schedule other public outreach meetings. Bid is expected to advertise in October with construction starting soon after.</i></li> <li>• <i>Pedestrian HAWK Project is almost complete, APS is working to connect the electricity. Matt expressed gratitude to Casa Grande for use of the pedestal.</i></li> </ul> <p>• <i>Tara Harman provided the attached update for Pinal County.</i></p>	
17	Upcoming Meetings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board Meeting, March 11, Casa Grande</li> <li>• State Transportation Board Meeting, March 21, Yuma</li> <li>• RTAC Board Meeting, March 24</li> <li>• Arizona's 38th Annual Statewide Transit Conference, April 14–16, Flagstaff</li> </ul>
18	Future Agenda Items	
19	Next SCMPO TAC Meeting Date - April 24, 2025 in Coolidge	
20	Adjourn	1:39 PM



Katie Hobbs, Governor  
Jennifer Toth, Director  
Gregory Byres, Deputy Director/State Engineer  
Audra Merrick, Division Director

February 27th, 2025

ATTN: SCMPO TAC Members

Subject: ADOT MPD Report

**1. FY26-30 Five Year Construction Program:** The tentative Five Year Construction Program was presented to the Arizona State Transportation Board and approved 2/21/25. Any STB comments will be incorporated into the tentative program, and the program will be uploaded to the ADOT Website for public comment by early March 2025.

Status of ADOT studies:

**1. 287/87 SR Corridor Profile Study:** A meeting occurred with the GRIC Cultural Resource Committee January 8th, 2025 to discuss existing performance. The Task 2 working paper draft for Current Conditions and Existing Performance was reviewed and comments were received. The Task 3 Working paper for needs analysis will be soon delivered with the TAC meeting #3 scheduled for March 6th.

**2. Passenger Rail Study:**

FRA provided feedback in January 2025 for the scope, schedule, and budget for step 1. ADOT is addressing the comments and will submit back to FRA approval of the final scope, schedule, and budget by March. Once approved, ADOT and FRA will establish a grant agreement for Step 2, which requires a 10% local match. ADOT plans to use the state appropriation to meet this requirement when moving into Step 2 of the Services Development plan.

An executive leadership meeting was held in mid February including members from SCMPO, MAG, and PAG and served as an introductory meeting while addressing any concerns and comments.

Project Website: [azdot.gov/PhoenixTucsonPassengerRail](https://azdot.gov/PhoenixTucsonPassengerRail)

**3. N/S Corridor Tier 2 Study:** This study is continuing to move forward while the ADOT MPD regional planner is in coordination with the PM on this study and the SR 287/87 study. Deliverables are ongoing (I have those details if needed), and will continue to have bi-weekly core team meetings.

Please visit the project website for any other needed information.

<https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-studies/north-south-corridor-study-proposed-new-transportation-route-pinal>

**4. Other studies** are also occurring including freight, a State Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Action Plan, ITS studies, and numerous transportation alternative studies.

ADOT SOUTHCENTRAL DISTRICT PROJECT UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2025		
Priscilla Thompson - Assistant District Engineer ADOT Southcentral District		
No.	Project Description	Status
F0270	I10 - Bridges over the Gila River (Outside Sun Corridor)	Currently in Construction by Pulice from 2024-2026 Managed by ADOT Central District
F0336 / F0337	I10 - Gas Line Road to South of SR 387 (Outside Sun Corridor)	Bid- 2025 Construction - 2025-2027 Managed by ADOT Central District
F0641	SR 187 from SR 387 to SR 87 Pavement Rehabilitation (Outside Sun Corridor)	Bid - April 2025
CITY OF CASA GRANDE		
F0642	SR 387 at Pinal Avenue and Viola Street - Install HAWK	Anticipated Bid - April 2025
T0469	Florence Boulevard and Peart Road - Intersection Improvements	Anticipated Bid - August 2025
T0470	Florence Boulevard and Colorado Street - Install Raised Median	Anticipated Bid - June 2025
T0529	Centennial Boulevard and Pinal Avenue (SR 387) - Construct Traffic Signal	Anticipated Bid - July 2025
T0530	Thornton Road-SR 84 to Peters Road - Widen Roadway	Anticipated Bid - December 2025
T0618	Ash Avenue and Florence Street Roundabout	Anticipated Bid - September 2025
CITY OF COOLIDGE		
F0521	SR87 and Skousen Road - Pavement and Traffic Signals	Construction Complete February 2025
F0553	SR87 and Kleck Road - Construct Left Turn Lanes	Construction Started Paving this week and next Guardrail beginning of March
CITY OF ELOY		
T0472	Battaglia Drive and Tweedy Road - Intersection Lighting	Anticipated Bid - March 2025
T0539	Battaglia Road - Eleven Mile Corner Road to Sunshine Boulevard - Construct Sidewalk	Anticipated Bid - October 2025
PINAL COUNTY		
T0448	Sunland Gin Road, Battaglia Drive and Houser Drive - Pave Shoulders and Rumble Strips	Anticipated Bid - June 2025
T0449	Battaglia Drive, Henness Road and Overfield Road - Shoulder Widening	Anticipated Bid - May 2025

1. **PRTA Updates:**

- PRTA Board Updates from Jan. 27, 2025 meeting:
  - Sales Tax Refund Update. The Board heard from the Executive Director on the status of the sales tax refunds from the start of the process in March 2024 to the end of December.

**Information through December 2024**

- Estimated businesses eligible to request a refund: 23,768
- Quantity of Businesses who have submitted a refund request: 204
- Estimated Remaining Amount Sales Taxes for Refund: \$68,502,768.70\*

*\*(note: this remaining balance is principal only and does not include interest due to taxpayer; interest is calculated at time of refund request approval)*

ADOR is emailing eligible taxpayers (businesses) on a weekly basis regarding their eligibility for a refund. Further information is available on the [pinalrta.org](http://pinalrta.org) website with a redirect to the Pinal County and ADOR for forms including frequently asked questions.

- HB2002 proposed legislation that may involve PRTA. This bill has not been assigned to committee and it is likely to be delayed until 2026. HB2002 would prescribe any unclaimed remaining sales tax refunds be directed to ADOT for use within the County.
- Discussion/Presentation on draft 2024 Report on PRTA Regional Transportation Plan Development. This report is about finalized and will be uploaded to the PRTA website soon.

• **Action Items approved by the Board included**

1. Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a contract with an auditor to conduct the statutory required annual audit. Two Fiscal Year audits will be performed by the Auditor (Heinfeld and Meech). Fiscal Year 23/24 and Fiscal Year 24/25. A primary function of the audit will be a review of the sales tax refunds process.
  2. Bylaws Amendments concerning clarifying PRTA membership, combining Board Officer positions of Secretary and Treasurer into a single Secretary-Treasurer Officer Position, adding formally to the Board's Standing Committees a Management Committee and the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee.
- Next meeting TBD, likely late spring for the presentation of the Audit.

2. Questions or comments?





# SIGN-IN FORM / STANDARD IN-KIND CONTRIBUTED SERVICES FORM

Please Sign. Your Time Counts!

Group/Committee Name: Technical Advisory Committee

City of Casa Grande Council Chambers, 510 E. Florence Blvd., Casa Grande, AZ 85122  
Call in Number - 1-408-418-9388

Activity/Meeting Date: Thursday, February 27, 2025 Location: Access Code - 24826330616#

ATTENDANCE					IN-KIND MATCH				
Name	Title	Organization	Email Address	Elected Official (✓ if yes)	Federal Funded (✓ if yes)	Hours Worked On Project Preparation Meeting Travel	Miles Traveled	Initials	
Tara Harmon	Sr. Transportation Planner	Pinal County	tara.harmon@pinal.gov			2 1 1	90	TH	
Duane Eitel	Deputy Public Works Director	City of Casa Grande	deitel@casagrandeaz.gov					DE	
Ben Navarro	Public Works Director	City of Coolidge	bnavarro@coolidgeaz.com			3 1 .5	36	BN	
Matt Rencher	Public Works Director	Eloy	mrencher@eloyaz.gov			4.5 1 .5	30	MR	
Will Randolph	Regional Transportation Planner	ADOT	wrandolph@azdot.gov		X				
Adam Langford	Transportation Planner	Works	adam@worksconsulting.com						
Brent Crowther	Project Manager	Kimley Horn	Brent.Crowther@kimley-horn.com						
Brittanie Hambrick	GIS Analyst	Works	brittanie@worksconsulting.com						
Dan Marum	Principal	Wilson & Company	dan.marum@wilsonco.com						
Anthony Casselman	District Administrator	ADOT	acasselman@azdot.gov		X				
Dawn Cartier	Principal	Civitech	dcartier@civitech.com						
Deborah Brunner	Transit Manager	City of Casa Grande	deborah_brunner@casagrandeaz.gov		X			DB	
Douglas Eberhart	Senior Environmental Planner	Wilson & Company	douglas.eberhart@wilsonco.com						
Priscilla Thompson	Assistant District Engineer	ADOT Southcentral District	pthompson@azdot.gov		X				





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Name	Title	Organization	Email Address	Elected Official (✓ if yes)	Federal Funded (✓ if yes)	Hours Worked On Project Preparation Meeting Travel	Miles Traveled	Initials
Irene Higgs	Executive Director	SCMPO	ihiggs@scmpo.org		X			IR
James Meyer	HPMS Manager	ADOT	jmeyer@azdot.gov		X			
Jason Bottjen	Deputy Director	SCMPO	jbottjen@scmpo.org		X			
Jay Gomes	Traffic Engineer	ADOT	jgomes@azdot.gov		X			
Jennifer Henderson	Project Coordinator	ADOT	jhenderson@azdot.gov		X			
Jennifer Love	SR. Transportation Planner	AECOM	jennifer.love@aecom.com					
Tina Munoz	Transit Group Manager	ADOT	tmunoz@azdot.gov		X			
Joe Ortiz	Managing Director of Development Services	Pinal County	joe.ortiz@pinal.gov					
Jon Vlaming	Community Development Director	City of Eloy	jvlaming@eloyaz.gov					
Jothan Samuelson	Transportation Engineer	Works	jsamuelson@worksconsulting.com					
Kevin Adam	Director	RTAC	kadam@rtac.net					
Lucas Murray	GIS/HPMS Analyst	ADOT	lmurray@azdot.gov		X			
Mark Henige	Program Manager	ADOT	mhenige@azdot.gov		X			
Michael James	Planning Director	CivTech	mhjamies@civtech.com					
Mike Blankenship	Principal	Green Light TE	mikeb@greenlightte.com					





**Group/Committee Name:** Technical Advisory Committee

City of Casa Grande Council Chambers, 510 E. Florence Blvd., Casa Grande, AZ 85122

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[illegible]

16.5 TOTAL Hours

136 miles