



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE:	November 18, 2025	TIME:	10:00 AM
PLACE:	City of Coolidge Council Chambers, Council Chambers, 911 S. Arizona Blvd., Coolidge, AZ 85128		
VIRTUAL OPTION:	Click to Join Meeting Now Meeting ID: 242 871 338 508 5 Passcode: 5Jm3sH9T Dial in by Phone: +1 323-673-4336, 966243787#		
	Irene Higgs 520-705-5143		

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING ATTENDEES

Board Members Present:	Mayor Lisa Fitzgibbons, Casa Grande Supervisor Steve Miller, Pinal County Mayor Jon Thompson, Coolidge	Others Present:	Duane Eitel, Casa Grande Will Randolph, ADOT (Virtual) Kevin Adam, RTAC (Virtual) Mick Mathieu, CivTech (Virtual) John Kross, Pinal RTA (Virtual) Denis Fitzgibbons
Board Members Absent:	Mayor Andy Sutton, Eloy Jenny Howard, State Transportation Board		Supervisor Jeffrey McClure, Pinal County Taylor Dunkle, Kimley-Horn Isaac Wotherspoon, Kimley-Horn Dedrick Denton, Pinal County
Staff Present:	Jason Bottjen, Deputy Director Starla Anderson, Transportation Planning Manager Jill Dickey, Operations Manager		

ITEM	AGENDA ITEM	
1	Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions	10:00 A.M.
	<i>The meeting was called to order by Chairman Miller at 10:00 A.M.</i>	
2	Title VI - Notice to the Public	
	<i>SCMPO Acting Executive Director, Jason Bottjen, read the Title VI Public Notice.</i>	
3	Call to the Public: This item is to provide an opportunity for citizens wishing to address the Executive Board 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.	
	<i>A Call to the Public was made and no member of the public was present.</i> <i>SCMPO Acting Executive Director Jason Bottjen presented an award on Behalf of Executive Director Irene Higgs and Sun Corridor MPO staff and thanked Supervisor Miller for his distinguished service on the SCMPO Executive Board.</i>	
4	Presentation and Discussion of the City of Coolidge Safe Routes to School Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes all Public, Private, and Charter Schools Document existing walk-bike routes to school and associated infrastructure Document walk-bike and vehicle interactions/conflicts and drop-off/pick-up operations Identify walk-bike issues/barriers Recommend improvements/actions 	
	<i>Taylor Dunkle with Kimley-Horn gave the attached presentation.</i>	
5	Discussion of the Legislative Reports on Current Legislation by the Regional Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) (Information Only)	

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	<p><i>Kevin Adams provided the following update:</i></p> <p><i>Kevin Adam provide an update on State Legislation.</i></p>
6	<p>Discussion of the Current Updates of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Activities (Information Only):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Casa Grande Safe Routes to School Study • AZ Smart Applications for Coolidge, Casa Grande, and Eloy
	<p><i>Duane Eitel provided the following Update:</i> <i>City of Casa Grande Safe Routes to Study</i> •The consultant has completed the remaining 10 School Walking Audits including: <input type="checkbox"/> Casa Grande Middle School, August 26, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Ironwood Elementary School, August 26, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> McCartney Ranch Elementary School, August 28, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Cholla Elementary School, August 28, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Desert Willow Elementary School, September 3, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Villago Middle School, September 4, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Center of Online and Innovative Learning (COIL), September 4, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Casa Grande Union High School, September 10, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Vista Grande High School, September 10, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School, October 9, 2025 •Two additional public engagement pop-up events were completed: <input type="checkbox"/> Silent Witness Anti-Crime Night, September 23, 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Halloween Harvest Festival, October 23, 2025 •The consultant presented at the November 3, 2025 Casa Grande City Council Study Session. There was also a Study Stakeholder Meeting earlier in the day. •The Draft Final Plan is expected to be submitted to the Project Management Team for review by the end of the month. •The Consultant will present at the January 13, 2026 Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board meeting with the Final Plan on the agenda for adoption.</p> <p>AZ SMART Applications for Casa Grande, Coolidge, and Eloy •The Cities of Casa Grande, Coolidge, and Eloy are at different stages of applying to the AZ SMART Program for reimbursement of the local match requirement for their Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant applications. •Coolidge has submitted their application to ADOT and it's going through ADOT's internal review process for the AZ SMART Program. Both Casa Grande and Eloy are currently working on their respective AZ SMART Applications with the application submissions to ADOT expected in the coming weeks.</p>
7	<p>Discussion of the Current Updates of the Pinal County Air Quality Activities (Information Only)</p>
	<p><i>Jason Bottjen provided the following update for Pinal County:</i></p> <p>•SCMPO December 2025 Air Quality Conformity <input type="checkbox"/> The 30-day review and public comment period ran from September 11, through October 12, 2025. <input type="checkbox"/> No public comments were received. Two questions from the US EPA - Region 9 regarding modeling assumptions were received and responses were provided by MAG via email. <input type="checkbox"/> Approval of the associated Air Quality TIP Amendment and Finding of Conformity are on today's agenda. <input type="checkbox"/> The request for a Finding of Conformity will be sent to FHWA & FTA on December 3rd, which is the day the MAG Regional Council will be approving their Conformity Analysis.</p> <p>•SCMPO June 2026 Air Quality Conformity <input type="checkbox"/> AQ project lists were sent out to TAC members on Friday, November 7th with the updated project lists due back by December 3, 2025. <input type="checkbox"/> The project lists will be reviewed and compiled into one final list which will be on the December 11th SCMPO TAC meeting and January 13th, 2026 Executive Board Meeting agendas for approval.</p>
8	<p>Discussion of the Current Updates of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Multimodal Planning Division (Information Only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADOT FY27-31 Tentative Five-Year Construction Program • ADOT 2055 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) • Transportation Alternatives • 287/87 SR Corridor Profile Study • Phoenix-Tucson Intercity Passenger Rail Study • North/South Corridor Tier 2 Study Update



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Will Randolph provided the following update:

1. ADOT FY27-31 Tentative Five-Year Construction Program: The final FY27-31 planning level scoping meeting for projects in the tentative program was held Nov. 13th.

2. ADOT 2055 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP): The new ADOT LRTP 2050 listening tour kicked off at the Rural Transportation Summit in October. Feedback was provided from area representatives to pick a time period to meet with the MPO and the participating government agencies. As part of this listening tour – meetings will be one on one to discuss transportation priorities & challenges, with the agencies in Fall 2025/Spring 2026, and the general public beginning in Summer 2026. Please contact the ADOT PM Jennifer Hobert with any questions.

3. Transportation Alternatives: The SCMPO TA Eloy Safe Routes to School study will go to the STB on 11/21 for ADOT subprogram funding approval. The assigned ADOT PM for the final design/construction sidewalk project on Battaglia Road project will also have to complete the ADOT LPA initiation processes. Please visit the TA Program website for detailed information, program guide and application. <https://azdot.gov/TA>. The two Safe Routes to School are continuing with a submitted existing conditions memo and public outreach for the City of Casa Grande study, and the Coolidge study comments were submitted to the consultant to be incorporated in the final draft. The study is up for adoption at this TAC and will go to the EB on Nov. 18th.

4. Off System Bridge Program FY27 Call for Project applications are open and will be due by December 31st, 2025. Reach out to Mark Henige ADOT LPA Program Manager with any questions.

Status of ADOT studies:

1. 287/87 SR Corridor Profile Study: The report has been posted to the ADOT CPS webpage at <https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-studies/corridor-profile-studies>

2. Phoenix-Tucson Intercity Passenger Rail Study: The current FRA Step 1 initiation package—comprising the scope of work, schedule, and budget—has been approved by FRA. Recent updates from FRA have expressed that they anticipate issuing a NOFO by the end of this year for Step 2 of the services development grant. If the NOFO is issued then it'll likely take a couple months to get the grant agreement executed and funding obligated to formally kickoff the project in early 2026. The quarterly meeting that was planned for Nov. 12 was canceled due to the pending NOFO for Step 2 of the Corridor ID program.

The next meeting with the Executive Leadership Team including the MPO directors is scheduled for January 20, 2026.

Project Website: azdot.gov/PhoenixTucsonPassengerRail

3. N/S Corridor Segment Tier 2 Study: Deliverables are ongoing, the project is in the information collection stage (biological, cultural resources, land use development, travel demand modeling, drainage), and there will be continued bi-weekly core team meetings.

Please visit the project website for any other needed information.

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

4. Other studies: The State Freight Plan update is underway, current transportation alternative studies are still being conducted by individual ADOT planning managers, and so is the COG/MPO manual update.

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9	<p><i>Discussion of the Current Updates of the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) (Information Only)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US Department of Transportation Federal Shutdown Contingency Plans
	<p><i>Jason Bottjen provided the following update:</i></p> <p><i>US Department of Transportation Federal Shutdown Contingency Plans</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On September 30th the US DOT released "Plans for Operations During a Lapse in Annual Appropriations By Operating Administration" • DOT expects to furlough 11,322 employees out of its total workforce of 44,829. The remaining 33,507 employees would be excepted and continue to work throughout a shutdown. All air traffic control services are considered excepted activities. • From FHWA: All operations continue as normal during a lapse in annual appropriations. This includes activities and personnel funded from the supplemental appropriations portion of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA, Division J). • The Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026 was passed and signed into law on November 12, 2025. • This continuing resolution funds the government through January 30, 2026 • In addition to the continuing resolution, Congress approved three full-year appropriations bills covering the Legislative Branch, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, Agriculture, Rural Development, and the Food and Drug Administration.
10	<p><i>Presentation of the ADOT Southcentral District Projects (Information Only)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Design/Construction Projects Administered by ADOT
	<p><i>Priscilla Thompson provided the following update:</i></p> <p>Casa Grande:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SR 387 at Pinal Ave and Viola Street - Install HAWK - Low Bidder - AJP Electric • Florence Boulevard and Colorado Street - Install Raised Median - Anticipated Bid Advertisement - September 2025 • Florence Boulevard and Peart Road - Intersection Improvements - Anticipated Bid Advertisement - September 2025 • Centennial Boulevard and Pinal Avenue (SR 387) - Construct Traffic Signal - Bid Opening - October 3, 2025 • Thornton Road-SR 84 to Peters Road - Widen Roadway - Anticipated Bid Advertisement - February 2026 • Ash Avenue and Florence Street Roundabout - Anticipated Bid Advertisement - April 2026 <p>Coolidge:</p> <p>Casa Grande Canal Extension Bridge - Construct Bridge Replacement- Anticipated Bid Advertisement - March 2027</p> <p>Eloy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battaglia Drive and Tweedy Road - Intersection Lighting - Contractor Roadway Electric LLC. Pole installation in October 2025. Construction completed in November 2025. • Battaglia Road - Eleven Mile Corner Road to Sunshine Boulevard - Construct Sidewalk - The City of Eloy just received TA funding for Final Design (FY26). Construction is tentatively programmed for FY28 <p>Pinal County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battaglia Drive, Henness Road, and Overfield Road - Shoulder Widening - Bid opening October 3, 2025
11	<p><i>Discussion of the Current Update of the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) (Information Only)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the Pinal County RTA Business Tax Refund • Update on the Pinal RTA Audit
	<p><i>John Kross provided the following update:</i></p> <p>Sales Tax Refunds . (As of Nov. 14, 2025):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Number of Requests for Refunds: 550 • ADOR Approved 374 refunds for a total of \$40.4M, with an additional \$1.06M used as offsets (delinquent taxes due). 147 applications for refunds are still under review. • We have also had \$481,452.05 in 5 cancelled refunds. • Outreach to taxpayers about the refund program and process continues regularly by ADOR. • Reminder of Deadline for Eligible Taxpayers to file a refund application is April 9, 2026. <p>Audit Update .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a reminder state law requires all Regional Transportation Authorities to complete annual program audits. • Since the PRTA doesn't have a transportation program currently, our focus for audit compliance is on the Sales Tax Refunds. • Final two sections of the audit under completion and review, including the last batch of auditing sales tax refunds, which again, is the focus of the audit. • Anticipate the Audit's completion prior to the end of the 2025. • PRTA Board meeting will need to be scheduled after Audit is complete to allow a presentation from the Auditor and possible acceptance of the Auditor's Report. • Board meeting still To Be Determined, but I will coordinate with Chair Besich with the anticipated date.
12	<p><i>Discussion of the Current Update of the Sun Corridor MPO Activities (Information Only):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on MPO Meetings/Trainings from September - November (12.1) • Update of the FY26 Federal Ledger (12.2) • SCMPO Financial Report (12.3) • Update of the SCMPO Design/Construction Project List (12.4) • Status of the SCMPO Engineering Program (12.5) • SCMPO FY2025-2029 TIP Amendments #3 & #4 (Administrative) (12.6) • SCMPO Letters of Support for Member Agencies and regional Partners(12.7) • 2026 Arizona Safety Performance Projections (12.8) • Approval of Title VI Implementation Plan and Annual Goals and Accomplishment Report (12.9)


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	<p><i>Irene Higgs introduced the new SCMPO Staff, Jill Dickey and Starla Anderson.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Update on MPO Meetings/Trainings from September - November (12.1) - Jason Bottjen stated that staff had a busy couple of months in September-November.</i> • <i>Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026 Ledger (12.2) - Jason Bottjen stated that SCMPO is working on the FY26 budget.</i> • <i>SCMPO Financial Report (12.3) - Jill Dickey provided an overview of the FY26 budget and expenditures.</i> • <i>Update of the SCMPO Design/Construction Project List (12.4) - Jason Bottjen provided an update to SCMPO projects.</i> • <i>Status of the SCMPO Engineering Program (12.5) - Starla Anderson stated that the Staff is currently preparing the request for qualifications • SCMPO FY2025-2029 TIP Amendments #3 & #4 (Administrative) (12.6)</i> <p><i>Amendment #3: Changed the name of the Sun Corridor MPO Scoping Program to Sun Corridor MPO Engineering Program to align with what is in the UPWP.</i></p> <p><i>Amendment #4: Moved the City of Eloy Safe Routes to School Study from the TIP Parking Lot to FY26</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>SCMPO Letters of Support for Member Agencies and regional Partners(12.7) - Jason Bottjen stated that two letters of support were provided for the following projects:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>5305e Eloy Transit Study</i> • <i>I-10, from Junction I-8 to Sunshine Blvd</i> • <i>2026 Arizona Safety Performance Projections (12.8)</i> <p><i>On August 31, 2025, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) formally established Safety Projections (Targets) for the state of Arizona for 2026. The 2026 Arizona Safety Performance Projections (Targets) established by ADOT are as follows:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Number of Fatalities: 1264.8</i> <i>2. Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT: 1.645</i> <i>3. Number of Serious Injuries: 3671.4</i> <i>4. Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT: 4.756</i> <i>5. Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities & Serious Injuries: 862.8</i> <p><i>180 days to adopt or establish our own targets.</i></p> <p><i>On 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 ADOT Safety Programs Manager Amirul Rajib, confirming that Sun Corridor MPO intends to adopt the Safety Performance Targets in perpetuity.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Approval of Title VI Implementation Plan and Annual Goals and Accomplishment Report (12.9) - Jason Bottjen stated that on July 17th, the Sun Corridor MPO submitted the 2026 Title VI Implementation Plan and 2025 Title VI Goals and Accomplishments Report.</i> <p><i>On September 5, 2025, Sun Corridor MPO received an approval letter from the ADOT Civil Rights Office for both documents.</i></p>	
13	<p style="text-align: center;">Consent Agenda</p> <p>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 BOARD. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS UNLESS A BOARD MEMBER OR MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC SO REQUESTS, IN WHICH EVENT 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>A motion was made by Board Member Jon Thompson to accept the Consent Agenda items as presented. The motion was seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Fitzgibbons.</i></p>	
*13.A	Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Meeting Minutes: • September 9, 2025, Regular Meeting	APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA 3 - 0
	<p><i>By a 3-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, the Board approved the Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2025.</i></p>	
*13.B	Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Amendment #5 to the FY2025-2029 Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)	APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA 3 - 0
	<p><i>By a 3-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, the Board approved Amendment #5 to the FY2025-2029 Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).</i></p>	
*13.C	Discussion and Possible Action to Approve 2026 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Executive Board Meeting Schedules	APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA 3 - 0
	<p><i>By a 3-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, the Board approved the 2026 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Executive Board Meeting Schedules.</i></p>	
*13.D	Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Adoption of the City of Coolidge Safe Routes To School Study	APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA 3 - 0
	<p><i>By a 3-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, the Board approved the Adoption of the City of Coolidge Safe Routes To School Study.</i></p>	
14	Discussion and Possible Action to approve the Sun Corridor MPO Staff to advertise, negotiate, select a consultant, and amend the FY26-27 UPWP, as necessary for the Eloy Safe Routes To School Study	APPROVED 3 - 0
	<p><i>A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Fitzgibbons to approve Sun Corridor MPO Staff to advertise, negotiate, select a consultant, and amend the FY26-27 UPWP, as necessary for the Eloy Safe Routes To School Study. The motion was seconded by Board Member Jon Thompson.</i></p>	



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15	Discussion and Possible Action to approve the New Finding of Conformity for the FY 2025-2029 Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Update	APPROVED 3 - 0
	<i>A motion was made by Board Member Jon Thompson to approve the New Finding of Conformity for the FY 2025-2029 Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Update. The motion was seconded by Board Member Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Fitzgibbons.</i>	
16	Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Amendment #6 to the 2025-2029 Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Update, contingent on the new finding of conformity	APPROVED 3 - 0
	<i>A motion was made by Board Member Jon Thompson to approve Amendment #6 to the 2025-2029 Sun Corridor MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Update, contingent on the new finding of conformity. The motion was seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Fitzgibbons.</i>	
17	Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Sun Corridor MPO Travel Policy - Amendment 1	APPROVED 3 - 0
	<i>A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Fitzgibbons to approve Sun Corridor MPO Travel Policy - Amendment 1. The motion was seconded by Board Member Jon Thompson.</i>	
18	Discussion and Possible Action to Elect the 2026 Executive Board Officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer)	APPROVED 3 - 0
	<i>A motion was made by Board Member Jon Thompson to elect the 2026 Executive Board Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer) as presented.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman - City of Eloy Mayor- Andy Sutton • Vice-Chairman - City of Casa Grande - Mayor Lisa Fitzgibbons • Secretary-Treasurer - City of Coolidge - Mayor Thompson <i>The motion was seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Fitzgibbons.</i>	
19	Adjourn to Executive Session Arizona Revised Statutes A.R.S. §38-431.03(A) Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the SCMPO Attorney pursuant to A.R.S § 38-431.03 (A)(3), and (A)(4): A.3.1) Discussion of the findings for the SCMPO Audit by ADOT and direction on how to proceed. Any records or documents distributed to the Executive Board or any conversations occurring during executive session shall be kept confidential. Legal action involving a final vote or decision shall not be taken at an executive session.	
20	Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Invoice from ADOT for \$12,600.	APPROVED 3 - 0
	<i>A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Fitzgibbons to approve paying the ADOT Invoices dated November 4, 2025, in the amount of \$12,600, contingent upon Sun Corridor MPO receiving written confirmation from ADOT that this action resolves all past car allowance issues. The motion was seconded by Board Member Jon Thompson.</i>	
21	Local Government Project Report: Casa Grande, Coolidge, Eloy, Pinal County	
	Pinal County - Nothing to report. Casa Grande - Nothing to report City of Coolidge - Nothing to report.	
22	Upcoming Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Transportation Board Meeting, November 21, Wickenburg • RTAC Board Meeting, December 15, Virtual • SCMPO TAC Meeting, December 11, Coolidge • State Transportation Board Meeting, December 19, Queen Creek 	
23	Future Agenda Items	
	<i>No future agenda items.</i>	
24	Next Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 13, 2026, City of Eloy – City Hall, 595 N. C St., Eloy, AZ 85131 	
25	Adjourn	11:37 A.M.



SRTS


SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL STUDY

Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board Meeting
November 18, 2025


Kimley»Horn
Expect More. Experience Better.

SunCorridor
Metropolitan Planning Organization


COOLIDGE
ARIZONA



1



INTRODUCTIONS



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3

SRTS: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL STUDY
Kimley»Horn

Purpose of SRTS Studies



- **Promote active lifestyle**
- **Reduce traffic congestion and emissions**
- **Address safety concerns**

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Overview of SRTS Studies

- Document existing walk-bike routes to school and associated infrastructure (e.g., sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle facilities)
- Document walk-bike and vehicle interactions/conflicts and drop-off/pick-up operations
- Identify walk-bike issues/barriers
- Recommend improvements/actions involving the “five E’s” to create a safer and more attractive environment for pedestrians and bicyclists

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Data Collection Summary

- Traffic Counts
- Parent Surveys and PublicCoordinate
- Student Tallies
- School Field Observations
- Walking & Biking Assessments

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Traffic Counts

- **Peak Hour Turning Movement counts**
 - Vah Ki Inn Road/9th Street
 - Vah Ki Inn Road/Arizona Boulevard
 - Northern Avenue/Kenworthy Road
 - Northern Avenue/9th Street
 - Northern Avenue/Arizona Boulevard
 - Coolidge Avenue/Kenworthy Avenue
 - Coolidge Avenue/9th Street (24-Hour TMCs)
 - Coolidge Avenue/Arizona Boulevard
- **Average Daily Traffic counts**
 - Vah Ki Inn Road, west of 9th Street
 - Northern Avenue, east of 9th Street
 - Coolidge Avenue, west of Arizona Boulevard,
 - Arizona Boulevard, north of Northern Avenue
 - Arizona Boulevard, south of Northern Avenue

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Parent Surveys & Public Coordinate

Parents Say:

- **Nearly 40% of parents do not feel comfortable letting their child walk or bike to school at any age.**
- **Top reasons parents do not allow their child to walk or bike to school include:**
 - Speed of traffic along the route,
 - Lack of safety at intersections/street crossings,
 - Distance, and
 - Amount of Traffic along the route.

Issues Reported by Parents

Too Much **Traffic****Intersections** are DangerousTraffic **Speed** is too Fast

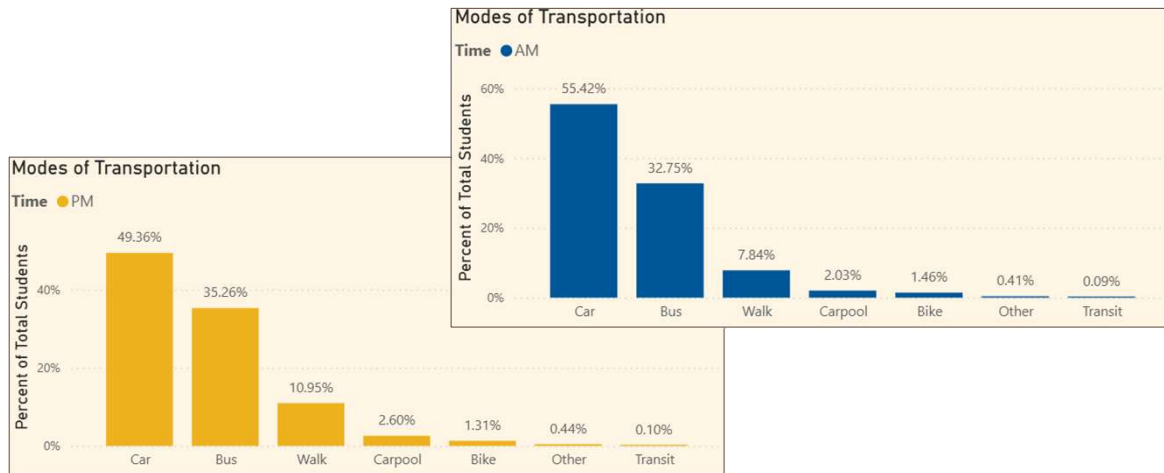
Only 10% of students walk or bike to school currently.

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Student Tallies



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Field Observations

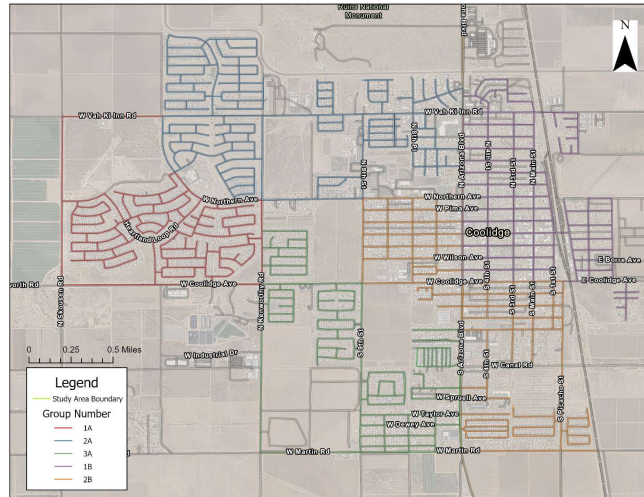
- **Many teachers/staff were directing traffic and/or not wearing hi-viz safety vests**
 - **Potential to implement crossing guard training**
- **Aggressive travel behavior on the roadways adjacent to schools**
- **Parking on the street adjacent to schools was common**
- **Students of all ages were observed crossing at unmarked locations, and unsafe crossing behavior was observed**
- **School signage is inconsistent and often does not meet state requirements**

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Walking & Biking Assessments



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Data Collection Summary



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Key Strategies – The Five E's



- **Evaluation** – assessing the needs at the school and collecting data to measure impact
- **Engineering** – adding sidewalks, traffic calming measures, and other infrastructure improvements
- **Education** – teaching kids safe walking and biking behaviors
- **Encouragement** – implementing walk to school days, walking school buses, and other events
- **Enforcement** – partner with law enforcement and community groups to engage the community and reduce the frequency of crime and traffic safety problems

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RECOMMENDATIONS



14



Evaluation

Collaboration Team: MPO and City

Establish School Safety Coordinator to Oversee:

- School-related safety concerns,
- SRTS program,
- Deployment of projects identified in the SRTS documents,
- Safe road behavior education programs



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Education

Collaboration Team:
City, Schools, PD

- Establish Driver's Education program targeted at young drivers in High School
- Teens in the Drivers seat Mobile App incentive program
- Establish or participate in existing crossing guard training for school staff responsible for facilitating crosswalks
- Develop a student pedestrian & bicyclist education program for elementary and middle school students

The Distraction Is Coming From Inside the ... CAR!



Drive without distractions. Your life is worth more than any call, text or playlist.

JustDrive

nsc.org/justdrive

nsc

National Safety Council

Source: National Safety Council

Crossing Guards Set Good Examples



- Do arrive before the children gather
- Do place the portable signs in the street
- Do group children off the main street before letting them cross
- Do keep your eye on approaching traffic
- Do wait for an appropriate gap in traffic
- Do step out into the adjacent lane when clear and maintain your position while children cross
- Do signal pedestrians when it is safe to cross
- Do hold STOP paddle high until you return to the curb
- Do promote safety habits in all children
- Do remove signs before leaving duty and place them so they keep the crosswalk clear
- Don't be late
- Don't direct traffic
- Don't shout or argue with motorists
- Don't use alcohol or tobacco products while on duty
- Don't be unfriendly with children
- Don't assume that all motorists will stop when you step into the street
- Don't let pedestrians linger as they cross the street
- Don't block sidewalks or crosswalks with signs after use
- Don't forget the huge responsibility you bear as a leader of young children



MAG Crossing Guard Training is on Monday, July 14th and need to sign up a couple days in advance

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Enforcement

Collaboration Team:
PD, City

- PD enforcement of speeding and on-street parking violations adjacent to the schools
- Young drivers license restriction enforcement
- Update school zone signage so all signing and marking is consistent and meets standards
- Provide teachers and staff with high visibility safety vests and lighted stop sign paddles

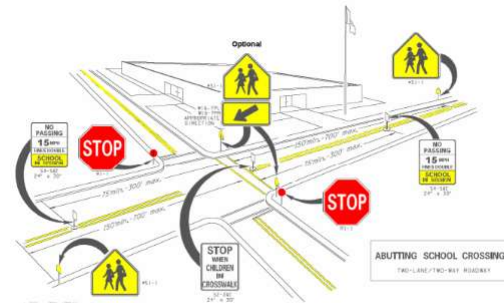


Figure A-1

Source: ADOT Traffic Safety for School Areas Guidelines

17

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Encouragement

Collaboration Team:
Schools, Parent Organizations, City

- Walking/Biking School Bus programs
- Create pick-up and drop-off diagrams and distribute to parents each year
- Consider changing start and end times to distribute congestion events



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Engineering

Collaboration Team:
City, MPO, Schools

- Sidewalk infill adjacent to schools
- On-street improvements to 7th Street and 9th Street
- Driveway consolidation at the high school
- New crosswalk infrastructure on Coolidge near CAVIT
- RRFB on Arizona Blvd near CAP
- Intersection improvements at Coolidge and 9th
- School zone striping and signage updates at all schools



19

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Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – School Zone Flashing Speed Limit Sign

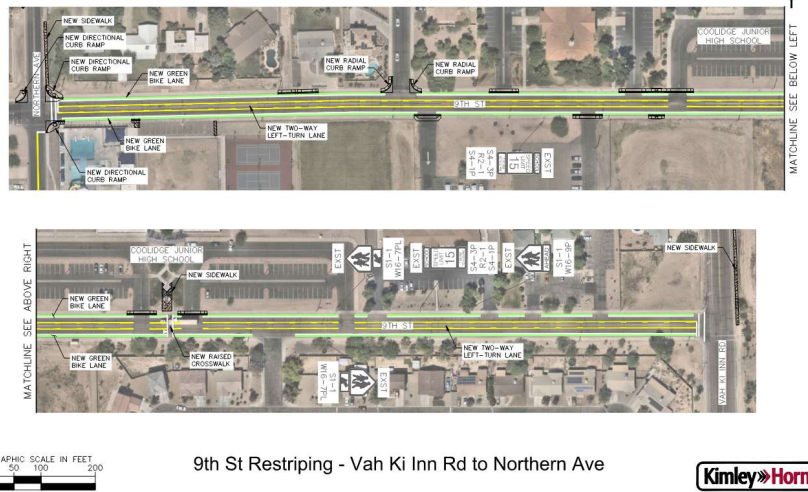


20

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Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Provide a turn lane to separate school traffic from through traffic



21



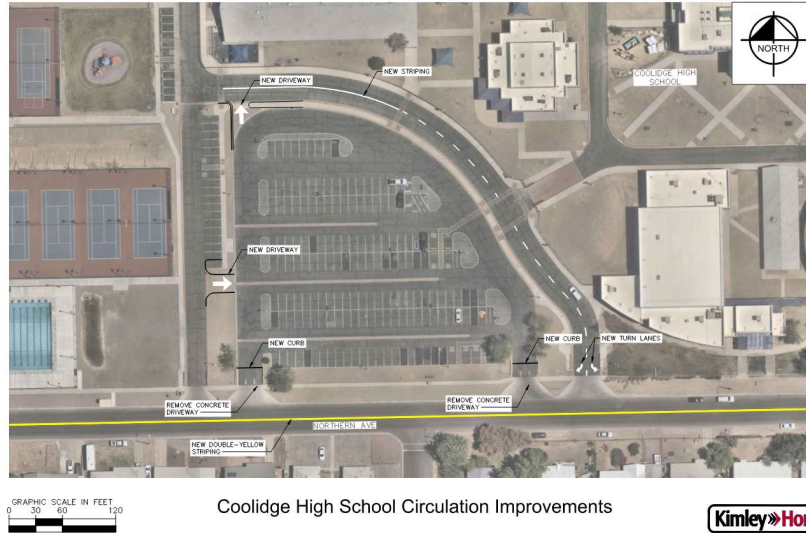
Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Provide On-street parking adjacent to school



22



Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – *Improve Traffic Circulation*



Coolidge High School Circulation Improvements



23

23



Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Provide a two-way left turn lane



Two-Lane Left-Turn Lane at Heartland Ranch Elementary

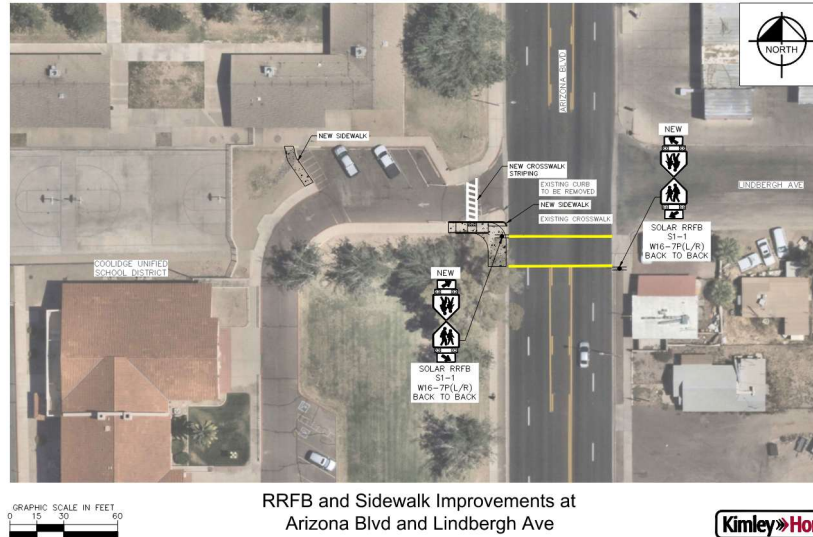


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24



Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Provide an RRFB and make sidewalk improvements

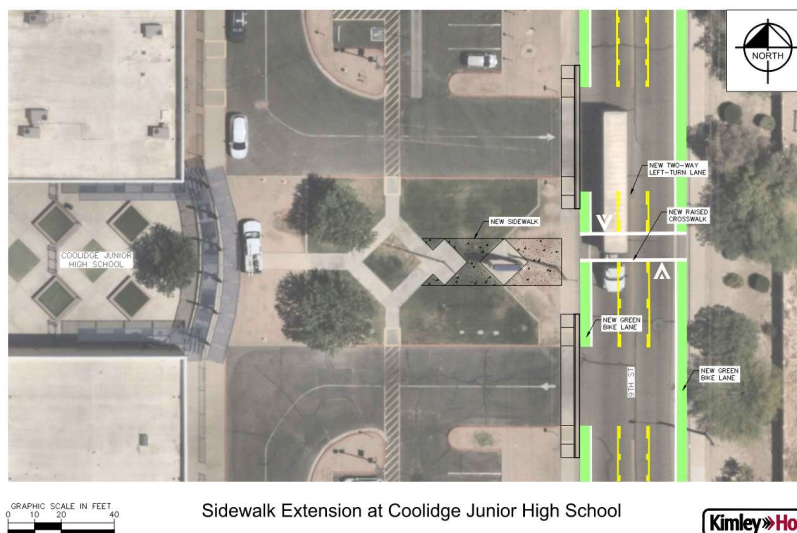


RRFB and Sidewalk Improvements at
Arizona Blvd and Lindbergh Ave

25



Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Extend sidewalk

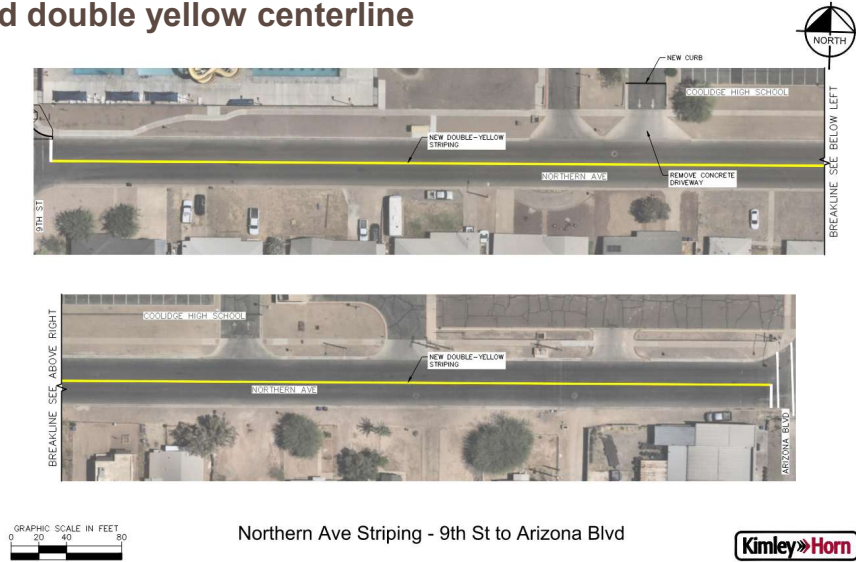


Sidewalk Extension at Coolidge Junior High School

26



Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Restripe road with solid double yellow centerline



27



Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Fill in sidewalk gaps



28



Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Fill in sidewalk gaps



Proposed Sidewalk - Northern Avenue



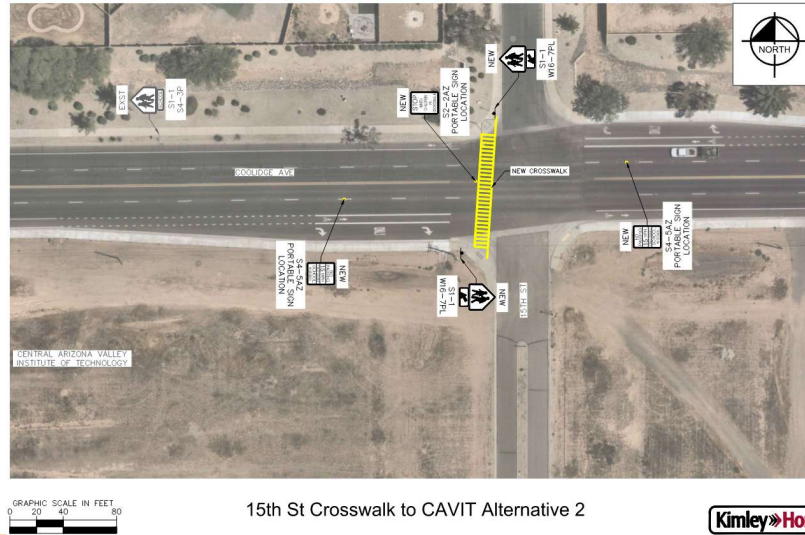
Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Fill in sidewalk gaps



Proposed Sidewalk - Wilson Avenue and 7th Street



Examples of Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – Install a crosswalk; Alternative 2



33

33



RESULTS



34

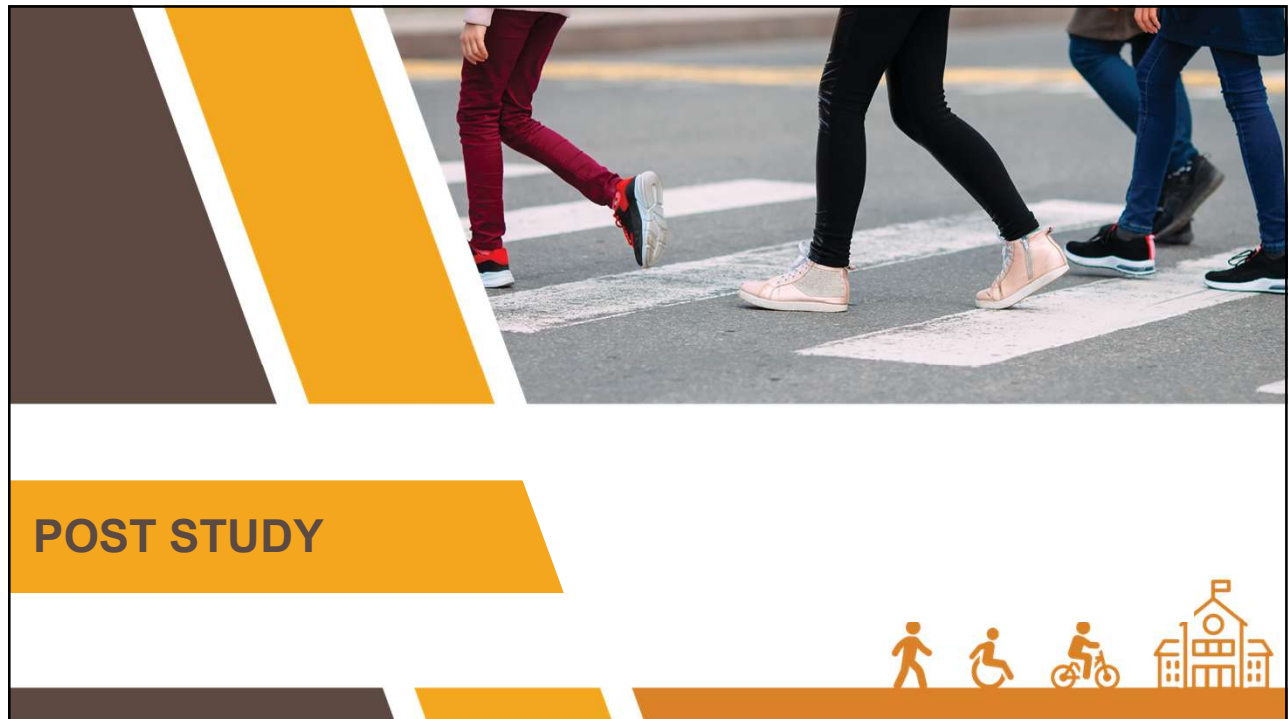


Safe Routes to School Final Report

- **Prioritized recommendations in an Action Plan**
 - **Near term to long term recommendations**
 - **Identify the responsible party for implementation**
 - **Provide evaluation criteria for each recommendation**
- **Provide funding opportunities available for various recommendations**
- **Develop scoping reports to support funding applications for top 4 infrastructure projects**

35

35



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Implementation

- **Funding is available to assist with project implementation costs**
 - Both infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects
 - Sun Corridor MPO created a handout to explain what is eligible for ADOT Transportation Alternative (TA) funding
- **Projects recommended on school property must be led by the school or District**
 - City can partner on funding applications

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OPEN DISCUSSION



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November 18th, 2025

ATTN: SCMPO EB Members

Subject: ADOT MPD Report

1. ADOT FY27-31 Tentative Five-Year Construction Program: The final FY27-31 planning level scoping meeting for projects in the tentative program was held Nov. 13th.

2. ADOT 2055 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP): The new ADOT LRTP 2050 listening tour kicked off at the Rural Transportation Summit in October. Feedback was provided from area representatives to pick a time period to meet with the MPO and the participating government agencies. As part of this listening tour – meetings will be one on one to discuss transportation priorities & challenges, with the agencies in Fall 2025/Spring 2026, and the general public beginning in Summer 2026. Please contact the ADOT PM Jennifer Hobert with any questions.

3. Transportation Alternatives: The SCMPO TA Eloy Safe Routes to School study will go to the STB on 11/21 for ADOT subprogram funding approval. The assigned ADOT PM for the final design/construction sidewalk project on Battaglia Road project will also have to complete the ADOT LPA initiation processes. Please visit the TA Program website for detailed information, program guide and application. <https://azdot.gov/TA>. The two Safe Routes to School are continuing with a submitted existing conditions memo and public outreach for the City of Casa Grande study, and the Coolidge study comments were submitted to the consultant to be incorporated in the final draft. The study is up for adoption at this TAC and will go to the EB on Nov. 18th.

4. Off System Bridge Program FY27 Call for Project applications are open and will be due by December 31st, 2025. Reach out to Mark Henige ADOT LPA Program Manager with any questions.

Status of ADOT studies:

1. 287/87 SR Corridor Profile Study: The report has been posted to the ADOT CPS webpage at <https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-studies/corridor-profile-studies>

2. Phoenix-Tucson Intercity Passenger Rail Study: The current FRA Step 1 initiation package—comprising the scope of work, schedule, and budget—has been approved by FRA. Recent updates from FRA have expressed that they anticipate issuing a NOFO by the end of this year for Step 2 of the services development grant. If the NOFO is issued then it'll likely take a couple months to get the grant agreement executed and funding obligated to formally kickoff the project in early 2026. The quarterly meeting that was planned for Nov. 12 was canceled due to the pending NOFO for Step 2 of the Corridor ID program.

The next meeting with the Executive Leadership Team including the MPO directors is scheduled for January 20, 2026.

Project Website: azdot.gov/PhoenixTucsonPassengerRail

3. N/S Corridor Segment Tier 2 Study: Deliverables are ongoing, the project is in the information collection stage (biological, cultural resources, land use development, travel demand modeling, drainage), and there will be continued bi-weekly core team meetings.

Please visit the project website for any other needed information.

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

4. Other studies: The State Freight Plan update is underway, current transportation alternative studies are still being conducted by individual ADOT planning managers, and so is the COG/MPO manual update.

ADOT SOUTHCENTRAL DISTRICT PROJECT UPDATE - BOARD NOVEMBER 2025		
Priscilla Thompson - Assistant District Engineer ADOT Southcentral District		
No.	Project Description	Status
CITY OF CASA GRANDE		
F0642	SR 387 at Pinal Avenue and Viola Street - Install HAWK	Contractor AJP Electric Contract Start Date: Oct 22, 2025 Contract End Date: Aug 24, 2026
T0469	Florence Boulevard and Peart Road - Intersection Improvements	Lowest Bidder is AJP Electric
T0529	Centennial Boulevard and Pinal Avenue (SR 387) - Construct Traffic Signal	Lowest Bidder is the Falcone Bros
T0530	Thornton Road-SR 84 to Peters Road - Widen Roadway	Anticipated Bid Advertisement - May 2026
T0618	Ash Avenue and Florence Street Roundabout	Anticipated Bid Advertisement - August 2026
CITY OF COOLIDGE		
T0595	Casa Grande Canal Extension Bridge - Construct Bridge Replacement	Anticipated Bid Advertisement - March 2027
CITY OF ELOY		
T0472	Battaglia Drive and Tweedy Road - Intersection Lighting	Contractor is Roadway Electric LLC Pole Installation and End of Construction in November 2025
T0539	Battaglia Road - Eleven Mile Corner Road to Sunshine Boulevard - Construct Sidewalk	Anticipated Bid Advertisement - September 2027
PINAL COUNTY		
T0449	Battaglia Drive, Henness Road and Overfield Road - Shoulder Widening	Lowest Bidder is W. W. Clyde and Co.

SCMPO Executive Board Updates from PRTA
November 18, 2025

Sales Tax Refunds. (As of Nov. 14, 2025):

- Total Number of Requests for Refunds: 550
- ADOR Approved 374 refunds for a total of **\$40.4M**, with an additional \$1.06M used as offsets (delinquent taxes due). 147 applications for refunds are still under review.
- We have also had \$481,452.05 in 5 cancelled refunds.
- Outreach to taxpayers about the refund program and process continues regularly by ADOR.
- Reminder of Deadline for Eligible Taxpayers to file a refund application is April 9, 2026.

Audit Update.

- As a reminder state law requires all Regional Transportation Authorities to complete annual program audits.
- Since the PRTA doesn't have a transportation program currently, our focus for audit compliance is on the Sales Tax Refunds.
- Final two sections of the audit under completion and review, including the last batch of auditing sales tax refunds, which again, is the focus of the audit.
- Anticipate the Audit's completion prior to the end of the 2025.
- PRTA Board meeting will need to be scheduled after Audit is complete to allow a presentation from the Auditor and possible acceptance of the Auditor's Report.
- Board meeting still To Be Determined, but I will coordinate with Chair Besich with the anticipated date.



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

Please Sign. Your Time Counts!

Group/Committee Name: Executive Board Meeting

City of Coolidge Council Chambers,
Council Chambers, 911 S. Arizona Blvd.,
Coolidge, AZ 85128

Activity/Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Location: Coolidge, AZ 85128

ATTENDANCE

Name	Title	Organization	Email Address	Initials
Andy Sutton	Mayor	City of Eloy	andrew.sutton@EloyAZ.gov	
Jenny Howard	State Transportation Board Member	ADOT	jhowardastb@gmail.com	
Jon Thompson	Mayor	City of Coolidge	jthompson@coolidgeaz.com	JTH
Lisa Fitzgibbons	Mayor	City of Casa Grande	lfitzgibbons@casagrandeaz.gov	LF
Steve Miller	Supervisor	Pinal County	steve.miller@pinal.gov	SM
Anthony Casselman	Administrator	ADOT Souhcentral	acasselman@azdot.gov	
Andrea Robles	Executive Director	CAG	ARobles@cagaz.org	
Ben Navarro	Public Works Director	City of Coolidge	bnavarro@coolidgeaz.com	
David (Mac) Harmon	Civil Engineer	City of Casa Grande	David_Harmon@casagrandeaz.gov	
David Malewitz	City Manager	City of Eoly	dmalewitz@EloyAZ.gov	
Deb Bunner	Transit Manager	City of Casa Grande	deborah_brunner@casagrandeaz.gov	
Dedrick Denton	Transportation Planning Supervisor	Pinal County	dedrick.denton@pinal.gov	Virtual
Duane Eitel	Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer	City of Casa Grande	deitel@casagrandeaz.gov	E
Elizabeth Barnes-Hanson	Transportation Engineer	Horrocks	Elizabeth.Barnes@horrocks.com	
Irene Higgs	Executive Director	SCMPO	ihiggs@scmpo.org	
Jason Bottjen	Deputy Director	SCMPO	jbottjen@scmpo.org	JB



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ATTENDANCE				
Name	Title	Organization	Email Address	Initials
Jill Dickey	Operations Manager	SCMPO	jdickey@scmpo.org	
John Kross	Director	Pinal RTA	john.kross@pinal.gov	Virtual
Kevin Adam	Director	RTAC	kadam@rtac.net	Virtual
Kevin Louis	PW Director	City of Casa Grande	klouis@casagrandeaz.gov	
Leo Lew	County Manager	Pinal County	leo.lew@pinal.gov	
Matt Rencher	Public Works Director	City of Eloy	mrencher@eloyaz.gov	
Mckenzie Letcher	Asst City Manager	City of Eloy	mletcher@EloyAZ.gov	
Mike Blankenship	PE/Principal	Greenlight Traffic Engineering	mikeb@greenlightte.com	
Nina Arredondo	Senior Transportation Planner	Pinal County	nina.arredondo@pinal.gov	
Priscilla Thompson	Asst. District Engineer	ADOT Southcentral	pthompson@azdot.gov	
Starla Anderson	Transportation Planning Manager	SCMPO	sanderson@scmpo.org	
Will Randolph	Regional Planner	ADOT	wrandolph@azdot.gov	Virtual
Zeena Gagnon	Mobility Manager	CAG/SCMPO	zgagnon@cagaz.org	
Denis Fitzgibbons	SCMPO Attorney			
JEFF McCURE	SUPERVISOR	PINAL COUNTY	JEFFREY.McCURE@PINAL.GOV	
Mick Mathieu		CivTech		Virtual

Taylor Dunkle, Kimley-Horn
Isaac Wotter-spoon, Kimley-Horn