

STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING
9:00 a.m., Friday, December 20, 2019
Maricopa Association of Governments
Second Floor-Saguaro Room
302 N. 1st Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Call to Order

Chairman Sellers called the State Transportation Board Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Elters.

Roll Call by Board Secretary

A quorum of the State Transportation Board was present. **In attendance:** Chairman Sellers, Vice Chairman Hammond, Board Member Thompson, Board Member Elters and Board Member Knight were present. Board Member Stratton participated by teleconference. There were approximately 50 members of the public in the audience.

Opening Remarks

Chairman Sellers stated board members had the opportunity to take a tour of the South Mountain Freeway Thursday afternoon. He added this is the largest infrastructure project in Arizona, which opened ahead of schedule and below budget. He noted how impressed he was with the knowledge and information that Project Manager Rob Samour provided while he gave the tour and added this project is a point of pride for him while he served on this board. Chairman Sellers and the other board members thanked David Martin, the Arizona Chapter Associated General Contractors of America, and the Arizona Council of Engineering Companies of Arizona for hosting a reception for them on Thursday evening to honor Chairman Sellers. Board Member Thompson also spoke about his concerns of dirt roads on the school bus routes and stated he is filled with hope after his meeting with the Governor's staff.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act

ADOT Executive Officer, Floyd Roehrich, Jr. reminded all attendees to please fill out the optional survey cards to assist our Civil Rights Department.

Call to the Audience for the Board Meeting

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the State Transportation Board. Members of the public were requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. There was one member of the public that addressed the board.

1. Christian Price, Mayor, City of Maricopa
2. Paul Ward, Executive Director, YMPO
3. Marcie Ellis, Chairwoman, Traffic Matters
4. Ron Harris, Co-Chair, ADOBE Roads Committee

ARIZONA STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Maricopa Association of Governments
302 North 1st Avenue
Second Floor, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

December 20, 2019
9:00 a.m.

PREPARED FOR:
ADOT - STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

SPEAKER:	PAGE:
Christian Price, Mayor of Maricopa.....	4
Paul Ward, Yuma MPO, Executive Director.....	6
Marcy Ellis.....	7
Ron Harris, Co-Chair ADOBE Roads Committee.....	9

AGENDA ITEMS

Item 1 - Director's Report, Floyd Roehrich, Junior, Executive Officer.....	11
Item 2 - Consent Agenda.....	12
Item 3 - Financial Report, Kristine Ward, Chief Financial Officer.....	12
Item 4 - Multimodal Planning Division Report, Greg Byres, Division Director, Multimodal Planning Division...	14
Item 5 - Priority Planning Advisory Committee (PPAC), Greg Byres.....	21
Item 6 - State Engineer's Report, Dallas Hammit, State Engineer.....	27
Item 7 - Construction Contracts, Dallas Hammit.....	33
Item 8 - Transportation Board Organization, Floyd Roehrich, Junior.....	42
Item 9 - Recognition of Chairman Sellers, Floyd Roehrich, Junior.....	46
Item 10 - Suggestions.....	57

1 (Beginning of recorded excerpt.)

2 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: All right. We'll move to call
3 to the audience, and the first speaker card is someone that I
4 don't recognize. Christian Price.

5 MAYOR PRICE: Well, then let me give you my bio.
6 No. Just kidding. Thank you very much.

7 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, you might want to
8 remind everybody they only have three minutes.

9 MAYOR PRICE: I was asking for an extension,
10 Floyd. I appreciate it again.

11 MR. ROEHRICH: That's what I wanted to know.

12 MAYOR PRICE: Very shortly. I'm very excited. I
13 got to participate in the opening with the Board Member Sellers
14 and others at the 202 opening with Governor Ducey. What a
15 wonderful event that was and, you know, just as the City of
16 Maricopa, we are very excited for the opening of this South
17 Mountain loop. Obviously Congressman Pastor Freeway. You know,
18 while it won't help us directly because we don't attach to it,
19 we do indirectly attach to it. And one of the things that many
20 of you know if you've come down the 347, you hit Riggs Road, and
21 that is a very large backup point and for a lot of different
22 reasons. So we are hoping that it alleviates a lot of that
23 cross traffic as people try and avoid going through the tunnel
24 in downtown Phoenix by coming over on Riggs and then trying to
25 get up 51. Just by staying on the I-10 for another five miles

1 gets you over the Loop 202, and then you can go 65 miles an hour
2 the entire way. So again, very excited about that.

3 And then just very briefly, the 347 study that we
4 were going with MAG and with Gila River should be completed this
5 month, and hopefully we'll have an update and that in your hands
6 here in January or February. So again, just giving you an
7 update on that.

8 Also have been exploring other options for
9 funding for that. We have come across a few areas in the
10 federal government through the USDA, in rural things through
11 tribal, et cetera, things that we think that working together
12 with Gila River, we'll be able to help create additional funding
13 sources for the potential fixes that will be slated.

14 And again, I understand the process. I know the
15 difficulties, but also pushing for at the legislative level
16 through the Arizona cities of -- League of Cities and Towns to
17 get extra funding. I met with Speaker Bowers and President Fann
18 the other day, and continue to push for extra funding for ADOT
19 and others to make sure that we have funding for these things
20 here in the future.

21 So again, doing what we can to help
22 transportation in the state. Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you. And I should
24 mention that Mayor Price and Board Member Elters and I spend a
25 lot of time in this building with MAG. So very familiar for us.

1 Next up we have Paul Ward, Executive Director of
2 the Yuma YMPO.

3 MR. WARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of
4 the Arizona State Transportation Board. Just a very brief
5 report.

6 Last Thursday we changed the name on a state
7 route. I will point out that this wasn't necessarily my idea.
8 This had started a long time before us. But State Route 195 is
9 now being renamed the Robert A. Vaughan Expressway. I'm not
10 entirely certain that he was happy with a road being named RAVE,
11 after the initials, but regardless of that, it is now known as
12 the Robert A. Vaughan Expressway.

13 Bob Vaughan was the first executive director of
14 YMPO. He served from 1983 until about 1998, and unfortunately
15 had to retire due to illness. That's the only reason he did
16 retire.

17 From that point of view, though, I'm -- I'd like
18 to thank the state engineer, Dallas Hammit, for coming down to
19 Yuma region, taking part in the dedication ceremony. We had his
20 widow was available. I'm glad to say she came along, and she
21 actually did the unveiling, together with her daughter, and with
22 Bob Vaughan's granddaughters as well. So it was a very nice
23 session, and -- but from that point of view, if you're looking
24 for 195 right now, you'll still find it on the map, but you
25 really need to look for the RAVE in the future.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

3 Next we have Marcy Ellis.

4 MS. ELLIS: Thank you very much. And I wanted to
5 start first by thanking everyone here for their work in Oak
6 Creek Canyon. The parking memo, parking area closures, filling
7 potholes, repaving, rock fall mitigation have all been done in
8 that area. Special thanks to Audra Merrick and her work, and
9 for Jesse Thompson, who has really helped us and represented our
10 area.

11 However, our work is not done. We look forward
12 to counting on your interest and counsel as we move forward.
13 Safety is a main canyon issue. As you know, 89A through the
14 canyon is one lane in and out. We're a chimney. We don't want
15 to happen here what happened in California. Emergency response
16 is hindered when traffic is backed up, and we've recently had a
17 child fall 20 feet at Slide Rock, and response was terribly
18 delayed. Uncontrolled parking and families with ice chests
19 going down is difficult.

20 So we'll continue to hold regular meetings on our
21 committee. Our stakeholders have many demands on their time and
22 money. Some -- and some improvements are underway, and it's
23 easy to assume everything is done. That happened in 2004 when
24 they had a transit plan in motion in Sedona. A new city council
25 came in. Everything was dropped.

1 So our regular meetings are critical. They keep
2 our leaders talking to each other, and they always turn up
3 little bits of information that are interesting. We'll continue
4 positive advocacy at all levels, more law enforcement and
5 seeking ways to get it, real-time signage that we still need at
6 both ends of the canyon. Reservation systems at all these areas
7 will make it easier to get in and out of the canyon when we have
8 transit. Transit all the way up to the switchbacks. The
9 elimination of even more parking, as we move forward, more
10 public restrooms, and if the day comes when a Sedona bypass
11 becomes necessary and has political support, we'll help support
12 those issues. And, of course, as individuals, advocacy for more
13 money for ADOT.

14 The Census Bureau predicts 2 million more people
15 moving to Phoenix over the next 20 years, and the scarcity of
16 and lure of water in the north areas will not abate or diminish.
17 We all know it's going to take a regional effort to keep all
18 these longer-term improvements going. We'll stay in front of
19 you. We don't want you to forget us. The good news is that
20 people are coming together with the understanding that decisions
21 to improve the situation can no longer be put off for another
22 generation.

23 The time is now, and we don't want -- this is
24 important not only to Oak Creek Canyon and Sedona, but to remind
25 you that the entire state has a very strong tourist interest,

1 and this is the main connection between Phoenix and the Grand
2 Canyon. It's not just a little route in the canyon that we
3 should forget about. It's important to the whole state.

4 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

5 MS. ELLIS: Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Next up we have Ron Harris.

7 MR. HARRIS: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and
8 members of the Board. My name is Ron Harris, and I'm a member
9 of the -- a citizens' group in Gold Canyon called ADOBE, and we
10 want you to approve the Gold Canyon bypass and include it on
11 your next five-year plan. If you're not familiar with it, the
12 Gold Canyon bypass would redirect US-60 around Gold Canyon by
13 extending the Superstition Freeway eastward and to the west and
14 the south of the existing road -- roadway.

15 A while ago a few of us came to the ADOT
16 boardroom and spoke to you about it, and since then we've been
17 drumming up support from the citizens of Gold Canyon. We've
18 written newspaper articles. We've spoken to political leaders.
19 We also gathered a petition. We prepared the petition, and we
20 gathered over 2,800 signatures, and we presented the petition
21 with the signatures to Director Halikowski last month. And --
22 but the petition's directed to you as the board and to all
23 Arizona government officials.

24 We need a bypass. Right now, Gold Canyon is a
25 choke point. It's a bottleneck. All the traffic in eastern

1 Arizona that's headed towards Phoenix metro area and vice versa
2 is forced to flow through the Gold Canyon area, through our
3 community. And to make matters worse, the traffic is
4 increasing. In the past 25 years, Gold Canyon has gone from
5 zero stop signs -- stoplights to six. And all this traffic is
6 increasing our safety concerns. It's just not safe anymore in
7 Gold Canyon.

8 And we're not just saying that. We've got some
9 statistics to point it out. The Arizona Department of Public
10 Safety provided us with information on the number of vehicle
11 crashes that have happened on US-60 between Mountain View Road,
12 that's where the bypass would start, and the Renaissance
13 Festival, where the bypass would end. That stretch of US-60 is
14 7.8 miles long. During the 44 months that ended in August of
15 2019, there were 331 crashes, 113 injuries, and 3 fatalities on
16 that stretch of roadway. So we believe that a bypass would
17 eliminate the congestion through Gold Canyon. It would reduce
18 the crashes, the injuries and the fatalities.

19 And then there's the matter of road
20 deterioration. All the heavy trucks are beating up US-60. They
21 need to be on a bypass that's specially built for heavy
22 vehicles.

23 Now, this bypass project has been languishing
24 around for many years. The engineering and the environmental
25 studies were completed in 2012, but nothing has been done since

1 then. It's been going nowhere. So we at ADOBE decided to take
2 some action to get the ball rolling. The petition is one of the
3 steps. Last month we spoke to Director Halikowski, and starting
4 now, a member of ADOBE is going to speak at every meeting you
5 have throughout the entire state. So you'll see one of us here
6 at every meeting you have.

7 Members of the board, the citizens of Gold
8 Canyon --

9 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Harris, your three minutes are
10 up. Could you please --

11 MR. HARRIS: Okay. And everyone asked -- that
12 drives through Gold Canyon asks you to pass the -- to build the
13 bypass. Thank you very much.

14 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

15 That's all the speaker cards I have. Madam
16 Secretary, do we have any more?

17 MS. PRIANO: No.

18 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. We'll move on to the
19 director's report. Mr. Roehrich.

20 MR. ROEHRICH: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and good
21 morning to you and the board members.

22 The director, originally scheduled to be here,
23 received a message to meet with the governor this morning. So
24 he has a meeting with the governor on another issue, and in
25 consideration of that, we'll forego with director's report in

1 the interest of time and getting the hell out of here this
2 Friday. So thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. We'll now move on to
4 Item Number 2, the consent agenda. Does any member want an item
5 removed from consent?

6 Okay. Do I have a motion to approve the consent
7 agenda as presented?

8 MR. THOMPSON: I would so move.

9 MR. ELTERS: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Motion by Board Member
11 Thompson, second by Board Member Elters. Any discussion?

12 All in favor say aye.

13 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

14 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? That motion
15 carries.

16 We will now move on to the financial report.
17 Agenda Item Number 3, Kristine Ward. Nice to see you, Kristine.

18 MS. WARD: It's nice to see you as well. Good
19 morning. Happy Friday.

20 MR. HAMMOND: Kristine, I have to apologize for
21 calling you Michelle earlier.

22 MS. WARD: Well, easy come, easy go. I go -- I
23 can go by Michelle. It's a nice name.

24 MR. HAMMOND: Probably not the worst things I
25 could call you, right?

1 MS. WARD: Yeah. Let's just keep it to Michelle.

2 Well, good morning. So I have a fairly brief
3 report, and I'll have a little present for you at the end of
4 this that we'll be emailing you.

5 So in terms of Highway User Revenue Funds, we are
6 within forecast. We've finally come back into forecast after
7 dealing with a distribution adjustment we had to make. Year to
8 date, we're just a little under forecast, .7 percent, and we
9 have collected 630 million in revenues.

10 In terms of the Regional Area Road Fund, right on
11 forecast. And year to date, we've collected about 100 -- almost
12 \$160 million, and that represents about 6.2 percent growth year
13 to date.

14 I would suggest, you know, in terms of restaurant
15 and bar, if you're planning on accumulating your holiday weight,
16 please go out and make sure that you get that weight via a
17 restaurant and bar. But drive safely, please.

18 I am happy to report that Congress passed a
19 1.4 trillion spending bill, and it has been sent to the
20 President, and he is expected to sign today before the
21 continuation expires, and that will fully fund transportation
22 for the balance of the federal fiscal year.

23 We -- in terms of our bonding program, I believe
24 my co-worker last month gave you the update with regards to we
25 are in the midst of doing a refunding of some HURF bonds, and

1 that is estimated to result in about \$40 million worth of
2 savings. That refunding is on schedule, and we are about to --
3 I think it's either the end of today or the beginning of Monday
4 publish the preliminary official statement.

5 We will be sending that wonderful 90-plus page
6 document off to you for your reading pleasure, and that is what
7 I give you as a happy holidays.

8 If you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer
9 them.

10 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any questions? Thank you.

11 MS. WARD: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: All right. We'll now move on
13 to Agenda Item No. 4, the Multimodal Planning Division report.
14 Mr. Byres. This is for information and discussion only. I
15 failed to say that in the last.

16 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, board
17 members. I'm just going to kind of go through this. This is
18 the end of the year, so I wanted to kind of go through exactly
19 what we've got going as we start off the next year.

20 So we're going to go through the evaluation and
21 prioritization of projects through our P2P process. Preparation
22 of the tentative 2021-2025 five-year program, the major projects
23 that we have going, the tier ones and the DCRs, as well as there
24 was some questions at the last meeting on grant funding, and so
25 we'll kind of go through what our history is on that and where

1 we're at.

2 So to start with, with our P2P process, projects
3 came in from all different areas. Mostly from COGs, MPOs, our
4 different districts, as well as all the technical groups and all
5 the studies that we have done, planning studies that recommend
6 projects. So all of those were all combined coming through.

7 We take all of those, again, and we take and
8 evaluate them all using technical, policy, safety and district
9 scoring. All of those are weighted. Again, those come through
10 in our expansion projects, our modernization projects and our
11 preservation projects. Each of those has a little different
12 weighting as they go through, because they're different --
13 they're different functions in each of the different
14 classifications.

15 So this year we had a total of 1,371 projects
16 that we ran through our P2P process. So it was a somewhat
17 daunting task, but staff did an excellent job going through
18 everything. So we've taken -- we've got just a few more items
19 that we need to complete to get -- have all of our lists
20 completed. The last two that we're waiting for are in our
21 expansion projects that require a little bit more technical
22 evaluation. So once we get that done, we'll have all of those
23 completed.

24 Again, for all of those, we will have a final
25 list put together, and it is our plan to try and get you that

1 list beginning of next month so that you'll have it prior to the
2 work session that we're going to have in January -- or the study
3 session.

4 As far as planning level scoping goes, since we
5 do have the list at least put together far enough that we can
6 actually start through with the planning level scoping, we've
7 already commenced with doing that. Every project that will go
8 into the final program will have planning level scoping that
9 will have a budget that is true down to a -- basically a unit
10 cost level, as well as scoping for all items for each project.
11 That way we're budgeted in the program correctly instead of just
12 a more or less, so...

13 So the next item we had is the preparation of the
14 five-year program. Where we're at in that right now, we're
15 finalizing all the budget for each year of the program, taking
16 and strategizing exactly what's going to go where. We're in the
17 process of doing that. It's not complete yet, but we're working
18 towards that so that we've got something for the tentative
19 program. We're adjusting projects to accommodate each of the
20 project schedules as necessary. So depending on what the
21 projects are and what year they're going into, making sure that
22 we've got everything set up the way it needs to be so it's
23 seamless and going through our entire program.

24 We're also taking and adding the prioritized
25 projects. So the P2P, once we completely finalize that list, we

1 will start looking at putting those in. Most of those will go
2 into the third year of the program as we go forward.

3 We're also setting up our subprograms. One of
4 the big things that we're trying to do is line item as many
5 projects as we possibly can out of those subprograms so that
6 it's in the program itself. You can see which projects we're
7 talking about and minimize those subprograms as much as
8 possible.

9 The next thing I was going to go through was all
10 of our tier ones that we have going right now. The first one we
11 is the I-11 corridor. Again, this is a corridor that runs from
12 Wickenburg to Nogales that we're working on. At this point in
13 time, this kind of gives you the timeline of where we're at. We
14 have completed the draft EIS, and we are working on the final
15 EIS. Right now, we've taken all of the comments that came
16 through and are analyzing those for any potential changes that
17 may occur as we get ready to publish the final EIS.

18 So there was several alternatives that we put
19 forth. You can see here we've got basically three of them. We
20 have a purple, a green and an orange. That went all the way
21 from Nogales up to Wickenburg. Some of them are following
22 existing routes. Some of them are greenfield routes, as we go
23 all the way up through. There was a recommended corridor
24 alternative that we put forth in the -- our draft EIS that goes
25 all the way up through. Again, those were the ones that -- this

1 was what went forward in our draft EIS to all of our public
2 hearings, where we received all the comments, and with those
3 comments, we're making whatever adjustments we see fit and
4 answering all of the comments that came through.

5 So again, there was several comments. We had
6 over 12,000 comments that are needing to be addressed. It takes
7 a little bit of time. We have had very good comments that came
8 through, some very good suggestions. So we're taking a look at
9 everything that we can as we come through that.

10 Next one we have is the Sonoran Corridor study.
11 The Sonoran Corridor is down in Tucson. It's a route between
12 the I-19 and I-10. It runs south of the Tucson International
13 Airport. Right now we're in the process of putting together the
14 draft tier one for that. We've taken and isolated it down to
15 basically three alternatives that we're looking at and trying to
16 come up with a recommended for a single alternative. We're
17 looking at having that draft tier one put together and out for
18 public hearings in the spring of 2020, with the final in the
19 summer of 2020.

20 The next one we have is the North-South Corridor.
21 This North-South Corridor runs from I-10 up to US-60. This
22 occurs in the East Valley. Basically, taking off from Eloy and
23 up to Apache Junction. So with that, the draft EIS has already
24 come out. We're trying to establish a 1,500 foot wide corridor
25 that routes up through the East Valley. We basically have three

1 different alternatives, with one of the alternatives being the
2 multiple connection points, as we put it forth in the draft EIS.

3 We took that and actually broke it up into four
4 different segments. The reason being is because those are how
5 the alternatives that we came up with inter-tie with the
6 different alternatives. So we have some that route out away
7 from different environmental concerns that we had coming through
8 the different alternatives. So -- but the recommended that we
9 came through with is basically what you see right here with the
10 purple alignment.

11 So the next steps on it, again, we've received
12 roughly about 400 comments through all of our public hearings.
13 We're taking and analyzing all of those, adjusting as necessary
14 to come up with the final EIS, which we're looking at trying to
15 have out next year.

16 The next one we have is the I-10/210 project.
17 This is down in Tucson. What this is is basically a routing
18 from the I-19 down to Kolb Road. This was a widening more than
19 anything else, but also with the connection of 210 coming into
20 I-10. So we've already taken and put together the draft on
21 this. We went out to public hearings down in Tucson. So right
22 now we're actually working on the final. As we go forward, this
23 is -- we're looking at trying to have out -- this will probably
24 be the fall of -- or summer of 2020 is what we're shooting for
25 in trying to get this completed.

1 This kind of gives you an idea of what we're
2 looking for. There's one of the big thing that came out of this
3 was the implementation plan of how it's all going together. So
4 in our draft, we had this. We're also looking at tweaking it as
5 we go forward for a final.

6 Last thing I had was the grant funding. This
7 kind of gives you an idea -- what we did is we took and combined
8 all the data that we have from the last five years for the
9 applications that we've put forth for grants. So we had a total
10 of 16 grant applications that we put out. Of those, we actually
11 were awarded six. So we had a success rate of about 38 percent.
12 The total grant funding that was awarded is 190 million.
13 Actually, almost 191 million. The total cost for putting
14 together those grant applications, all 16 of them, was about
15 806,000. So it's -- this is a good return on investment trying
16 to get these federal funds.

17 So the big ones that we have that we're looking
18 for is the INFRA grant is the latest that we try and go after.
19 So any of our very large projects, that's what we're looking for
20 in additional funding. We never try and completely fund a
21 project. We try and utilize projects that are already in our
22 program. We don't want to risk anything in our program. So any
23 funding that comes through to projects that are already in the
24 program, we can minimize any risk that we have if we don't get
25 it. We're not putting ourselves in a loss if we don't get a

1 grant.

2 The other funds that we have is the BUILD grant
3 is the other one, which used to be the TIGER grant. Then we
4 also have other funds. We are constantly searching through the
5 CFRs for notice of funding opportunities from federal highway as
6 well as others. We were also looking at FTA funds, also looking
7 at any kind of funding opportunities that we possibly can as we
8 go through the year. We have one individual that we have as our
9 grant administrator, and that is his sole job, is looking for
10 funding opportunities and then taking and actually putting forth
11 the applications for those.

12 So with that, if you have any questions, I would
13 be...

14 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: First of all, I want to
15 express my appreciation for the effort that you're making to
16 involve the Board earlier in the planning process in all this.

17 MR. BYRES: Uh-huh.

18 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Hopefully that's going to be a
19 productive thing for us.

20 Any board members have any questions or comments?

21 All right. Thank you.

22 MR. BYRES: Thank you very much.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: We'll move to the Agenda Item
24 No. 5, PPAC items. This is for discussion and possible action.

25 MR. BYRES: So Mr. Chairman, board members, the

1 PPAC brings before you -- we've got a total of 18 projects. We
2 have eight projects for modification, ten new projects. So
3 we'll start off with the modifications. These are Items 5A
4 through 5H, and we bring those forward with a recommendation for
5 approval.

6 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair.

7 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Board Member Knight.

8 MR. KNIGHT: I've got a question on 5A. 5A, this
9 project was -- the construction project was increased. We only
10 had one bidder from what I read. Are we just increasing the
11 project amount to match the bid or what are we doing?

12 MR. BYRES: Mr. Chairman, Board Member Knight,
13 no. Actually, what we did was we got with the single bidder
14 that we had to find out what issues we had. Well, it turns out
15 that there were some specification issues that we had. We have
16 revised those specifications so that's going back out. We also
17 have figured in doing those revisions, hopefully we've -- we'll
18 bring in more bidders as well as being able to make it much more
19 competitive. But we also got a better handle on costs for this
20 as well.

21 MR. KNIGHT: Great. Thank you.

22 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Is there a motion to approve
24 PPAC project modifications Items A5 through AH?

25 MR. HAMMOND: So moved.

1 MR. THOMPSON: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Motion by Board Member
3 Hammond, second by Board Member Thompson. Any discussion?

4 All in favor say aye.

5 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

6 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? The motion
7 carries.

8 MR. BYRES: Mr. Chairman, board members, the next
9 items we have are Items 5I through 5R. These are ten new
10 projects, and with this, we bring these forward with a
11 recommendation for approval.

12 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Is there a motion to
13 approve PPAC new project Items 5I through 5R?

14 MR. ELTERS: Mr. Chairman, I move for those
15 items. I do have a question on 5J.

16 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. We have a board -- a
17 motion by Board Member Elters.

18 MR. KNIGHT: I do have a question on 5Q.

19 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, clearly you have a
20 motion with -- a motion made. Can we get a second, and then you
21 can ask for that question?

22 MR. HAMMOND: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. I have a second by
24 Board Member Hammond. Okay. Now we have discussion.

25 Board Member Elters.

1 MR. ELTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 5J is related to the Deck Park Tunnel, and the
3 statement here reads that work can be performed by City of
4 Phoenix.

5 MR. BYRES: Yes.

6 MR. ELTERS: Is that actually the City of Phoenix
7 workforce doing the work, or are they administering the
8 contract? Can you elaborate a little bit more on that?

9 MR. BYRES: So there is an IGA that's signed
10 through the City of Phoenix for this work, and work is going to
11 be performed -- since this is going through the middle of the
12 park, what -- basically we're having to open up the parkway to
13 get down to those Deck Park joints, so they will be working
14 with -- I'm not sure that the work is going to be done by the
15 City of Phoenix, but it will be -- they will be involved in the
16 administration of it, of the contract. Steve can help out with
17 this.

18 MR. BOSCHEN: Nesbitt is doing the work.

19 MR. BYRES: Nesbitt?

20 MR. BOSCHEN: Yes.

21 MR. BYRES: So...

22 MR. ROEHRICH: Greg, could you identify who made
23 that comment so we have...

24 MR. BYRES: This is Steve Boschen.

25 MR. BOSCHEN: Steve Boschen. And Chairman and

1 Board Member Elters, it is Nesbitt that's doing the work for the
2 City of Phoenix through an IGA. We are paying for the work
3 through the IGA, but Nesbitt Contracting is already doing work
4 at the park. They've done previous repairs on the joints.

5 MR. ELTERS: Thank you.

6 Mr. Chairman, I don't have any other questions.

7 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Board Member Knight.

8 MR. KNIGHT: Yeah. On 5Q, this particular
9 project is also part of or is within the phase four of hopefully
10 the future widening of US-95 through YPG. So my question is are
11 we -- is that being taken into consideration so that whatever we
12 do at -- with this particular project, it won't have -- it will
13 fit with the widening when that does happen?

14 MR. BYRES: Mr. Chairman, Board Member Knight,
15 yes. What this is is this is left-hand turn lanes and
16 southbound. So yes, those will have to be coordinated together
17 in order to make this all function exactly how we need it to
18 work so that way we're not -- one, we're not throwing away work,
19 and two, that they're compatible.

20 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you.

21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Board Member Thompson.

23 MR. THOMPSON: On your 5K, statewide national
24 park pavement preservation, can you elaborate on maybe some of
25 those locations you're talking about? One particular one I'm

1 talking -- thinking about is that Homolovi Park on 87 north of
2 Winslow. That request has come up for us before, and I'm
3 wondering what the status of that is.

4 MR. BYRES: So Mr. Chairman, Board Member
5 Thompson, with these ones, the state parks have come through
6 with basically an overall list of what projects they're having.
7 So what they've -- in the past they've come through with
8 individual projects --

9 MR. THOMPSON: Uh-huh.

10 MR. BYRES: -- which as they get ready, they're
11 -- so it's been very cumbersome. So what we've specifically
12 worked with them on is bringing all of their projects forward.

13 MR. THOMPSON: Right.

14 MR. BYRES: So I don't have any details of any
15 one of the parks that they're doing the work on at this point in
16 time. We can certainly -- as we get close to that, we can
17 certainly take and get you that information as it comes forth.

18 MR. THOMPSON: We'll get together. Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Thank you.

20 We have a motion and a second. All in favor say
21 aye.

22 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? That motion
24 carries. Thank you.

25 All right. Moving on to Agenda Item No. 6.

1 State engineer's report. Mr. Hammit.

2 MR. HAMMIT: Good morning and thank you,
3 Mr. Chair.

4 Currently, ADOT, we have 82 projects under
5 construction totaling \$1.76 billion. In November we finalized
6 nine projects totaling 8.3 million, and year to date, we have
7 finalized 50 projects.

8 And Mr. Chairman, if you could do me a favor. If
9 you see Mr. Samour, could you remind him that this project has a
10 30 year maintenance phase, and at the end of that phase, I will
11 be happy to turn over my rein. So if you could please let
12 Mr. --

13 MR. ROEHRICH: (Inaudible.) Great response.

14 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you. I will pass that
15 message along to him.

16 MR. ROEHRICH: (Inaudible.)

17 MR. HAMMIT: At the meeting in Wickenburg, we
18 talked a little bit about escalating costs, and so I have a
19 couple of slides with it. And when Lynn saw my presentation, he
20 says it -- Dallas, you have the wrong slide. But I want to take
21 us back in history a little bit. At the June board meeting in
22 2018, and that's the year-end, that's our last board meeting, at
23 that time you can see with our estimate, our state estimate and
24 our bids, we were within 2 and a half percent of estimating
25 where that -- projects will come in. And basically, out of the

1 almost \$400 million, we were within \$10 million. It changed the
2 next year.

3 This past June, we were 16 percent over. So --
4 and we saw that going through the year, and we were looking at
5 why. As we looked at -- we went back in history for the last
6 three years or four years and looked at what are prices going.
7 So we used 2016 as our baseline. So as that being one, how have
8 prices increased? And as you can see by the chart, asphaltic
9 binder is up 87 percent. We've seen electrical conduit.
10 Reinforcing seal's another big one that -- in this one and other
11 agenda items, we're going to have bridge projects. That's up 58
12 percent.

13 As a total index, we are up 47 percent. So as
14 Kristine is able to find additional funds, she is not finding
15 funds that will keep up with that 47 percent increase. So even
16 though we may get a few more dollars, we're not going to have as
17 many projects if these escalations continue.

18 We've done some work on why is this happening.
19 We have a lot of work out there, and the economy's doing well,
20 so we have a lot of competition, not only with highway work. We
21 have competition with private development, and those contractors
22 have different choices to do, where in the recession we were and
23 sometimes the only game in town. Now there's lots of
24 competition.

25 The labor force, every state -- at the national

1 conferences that I attend, the labor force is one of the key
2 conversations, both for state DOTs, but also the contracting
3 industry. They cannot find people who want to work in this
4 industry -- or not -- they cannot find enough people who want to
5 work in our industry. So we're dealing with that, and they're
6 demanding more and more on wages to be competitive.

7 We are tracking this. I get a report on a
8 quarterly basis to see where we're -- how we're doing. We make
9 adjustments to our program. We went up over 25 percent in cost
10 last year. For year to date, last year, we were 16 percent. So
11 we did make adjustments. So we weren't 25 percent under the
12 engineer's estimate. I don't know that that makes me feel
13 really well, because still our prices are up 25 percent. That
14 means 25 percent of the program that we had hoped to do, we
15 can't do anymore because we're spending money on those projects.
16 And I'm happy to bring this back to the Board quarterly or twice
17 a year as you see fit. And if there's any questions, I'd be
18 happy to answer those.

19 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Board Member Hammond.

20 MR. HAMMOND: Dallas, this probably isn't really
21 a question for you, and I think there are some substantive
22 discussions going on now at the Legislature on maybe finding
23 increased revenues for infrastructure, and I think it would be
24 good for the Board to be updated regularly on how those are
25 going. It just kind of breaks my heart to hear all of these

1 good projects, some of which were presented today, and the
2 reality is you need money to build them, and our revenues are
3 going down every year.

4 So it's -- yeah. I know what you're saying, and
5 there's no easy solution at this point in time. There's no
6 solution particularly in sight at this point in time, unless you
7 want to refute that comment.

8 MR. HAMMIT: I've asked Kristine if she could
9 print money and she refuses to do so.

10 MR. HAMMOND: Well, we know it -- we all know
11 it's Kristine's fault.

12 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair -- Mr. Chair,
13 Mr. Hammond, I would like to say to Kristine (inaudible) she is
14 doing a phenomenal job with the money she has. But regarding
15 the legislation coming out, Mr. Hammond makes a very good point.
16 We are finally getting a lot of retention, if you will, by our
17 leader, like the leaders in the Legislature in talking to
18 transportation, and in fact, there's a lot of discussion that
19 some one-time projects as well this year being discussed,
20 whether they're long-term solutions to revenue or just one-time
21 projects with some excess general fund money that they're
22 looking at.

23 So transportation's getting a lot of discussion.
24 So we'll see where that debate goes. When the Legislature kicks
25 off in January, we can expect routine updates from the

1 legislative team. We'll make sure that we share those with the
2 Board, as we've done in the past, and then make sure that we're
3 keeping topics up -- on topics up to date in front of the Board,
4 but remember, you know, if there's an issue that you deal with
5 regarding transportation, don't hesitate. Talk to your elected
6 leaders. Talk to the people down in Washington -- or Phoenix
7 that can help bring these transportation issues to the
8 forefront.

9 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Well, and I think it's been
10 helping our discussion about the need for funds when they
11 realize that we really are not even able to keep up with
12 maintenance right now, and that's become obvious even in this
13 region that that's an issue.

14 Board Member Thompson.

15 MR. THOMPSON: Floyd, earlier I mentioned our
16 meeting with the governor's staff. This was on the one-time
17 funding that we're looking at. It's a road coming out on 264 on
18 the Hopi reservation, going north to -- into Navajo community
19 that is a 13.7 mile stretch of dirt road, and I showed that
20 video to the Board here sometime back, and that's what we're
21 looking at. I don't know where we can fit in in trying to go
22 push for that, those type of projects.

23 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, Mr. Thompson, those
24 type of projects that the governor's office is working on,
25 they'll ask us questions, and technically, we'll provide them

1 information, you know, like duration, costs, things like that.
2 But for the most part, that is in their hands to determine if
3 it's going to get into the governor's budget and if they'll work
4 with the Legislature to make sure it stays in the legislative
5 budget.

6 So all those one-time project requests, I know
7 the governor's office has been receiving requests. Various
8 legislators have been receiving requests. They're going to
9 debate through that, and whatever they finally end up with when
10 it's appropriated, funds are given, and we will address it at
11 that time. But the agency's moved on all those. Those are
12 requests that are being handled by our elected leaders, and
13 unless requested, we provide input.

14 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Board Member Elters.

16 MR. ELTERS: Just an observation. If you look at
17 the chart that Dallas put up and you look at 2016 as being the
18 baseline, the rate of change is increasing year after year. So
19 4 percent in '17, 7 percent in -- let me back up. Looking at
20 the total index, 8 percent over baseline in '17 -- more or less
21 16 percent in '18, and 23 percent in '19. If that continues,
22 2020 will be even worse. So all the comments that have been
23 made here and the need to find additional revenues is only being
24 exacerbated according to that chart.

25 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Thank you. And on that

1 happy note.

2 MR. HAMMIT: That's all for my state engineer's
3 report, Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: We'll move on to Agenda Item
5 No. 7, construction contracts.

6 MR. HAMMIT: And Mr. Chairman, thank you and
7 Board for approving the three projects in the consent agenda.

8 We do have a number of projects, six of them, to
9 talk about in the justifications, and as you can see right now
10 on the table -- I kind of like seeing the red. That means we're
11 under our program, but the majority of that you saw last month
12 with the project in Tucson, the Ruthrauff project, accounts for
13 almost all of that savings. So it's not across the board. We
14 did get really good bids or we overestimated, one of the two, or
15 a combination of both on that. So as the trend continues, we'll
16 know better how we're doing.

17 But as we estimate, we're using those escalators
18 that I just talked about to keep our prices as close as
19 possible, and you can see in the six that we'll talk about, we
20 weren't always successful with keeping up with where the market
21 is driving.

22 So the first project that we need to talk about
23 is Item 7A. This is a project -- and Mr. Chair, this project,
24 there was a request to speak on this if there was a protest. I
25 don't know if one of the -- the second party had showed up, but

1 I just want to make the Board aware that there was that
2 opportunity.

3 MR. ROEHRICH: And to that end, thank you,
4 Dallas. Mr. Chair, we do have one request, although we've not
5 received any other requests. So I think if either party here
6 would like to speak, because there was a potential protest and
7 we looked at it, you could offer that, but at this point, unless
8 there's an objection to the state engineer's recommendation,
9 we're holding the request, so...

10 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay.

11 MR. ROEHRICH: I don't know if there's anybody
12 who would like to speak to this. If not, then I will just have
13 Dallas continue.

14 MR. HAMMIT: Mr. Chair.

15 MR. ROEHRICH: I just heard -- saw Mr. Roos stand
16 up.

17 MR. ROOS: We're fine to waive our right to
18 appear --

19 MR. ROEHRICH: Okay.

20 MR. ROOS: -- since there's no one here for
21 (inaudible).

22 MR. ROEHRICH: The other party. Okay. Thank
23 you.

24 MR. HAMMIT: Mr. Chair, this is a project on
25 State Route 77. It has some safety improvements. On this

1 project, the low bid was \$1,314,837. The State's estimate was
2 \$1,154,439. It was over the State's estimate by \$160,398 or
3 13.9 percent. We saw higher than expected our estimated pricing
4 in our roadway excavation and our aggregate base.

5 Similar to a project we heard last month on -- as
6 the -- the contractor submitted their paperwork on their DBE
7 affidavit. There were some errors that carried from the bid to
8 the DBE affidavit. In this case, once those errors were
9 corrected and we retallied their DBE goal or their percentage
10 that they were going to use. They were still well above the
11 goal. Their -- the goal was 9.44 percent. Their corrected
12 number was 12.19 percent, so well above that. In our
13 discussions with staff, in the state engineer's opinion, this is
14 a non-material variance. Basically, it did not affect any of
15 the bidding, did not give anyone an advantage.

16 With that, the Department believes that the bids
17 are responsive and responsible and recommends award to Paveco,
18 Inc.

19 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Board Member Stratton,
20 this is in your district. Do I have a motion to approve this
21 item as presented?

22 MR. STRATTON: Yes, you do. Move to approve.

23 MR. HAMMOND: I'll second that. I do have a
24 question.

25 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Motion by Board Member

1 Stratton, second by Board Member Hammond.

2 MR. HAMMOND: I think maybe I should know this,
3 but is this overrun share in percentage between fed and state or
4 does the state pick it up?

5 MR. HAMMIT: In -- in what the --

6 MR. HAMMOND: The overage.

7 MR. HAMMIT: It would be in the same percentage
8 of the share. So if this project is 5 -- or 4.9 percent federal
9 share or state share, that percentage carries through on the
10 overage, like any of our projects do.

11 MR. HAMMOND: So the (inaudible) pick up the
12 majority of this, I guess, is my question.

13 MR. HAMMIT: Yes.

14 MR. HAMMOND: Okay. Thank you.

15 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, before we act on that,
16 I would like to make sure that we get on the record that in
17 absence of any formal protest or any other parties speaking,
18 that Paveco representative had waived the right to speak from
19 the request. I just want to make sure that we had gotten that,
20 because I don't know, Mr. Roos, if they heard your comment
21 saying that you waived. So I want to make sure that we have
22 that on the record.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Thank you.

24 Any further discussion? All in favor say aye.

25 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? That passes.

2 MR. HAMMIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 Item 7B, this is a project on State Route 89A in
4 the Oak Creek Canyon area. It was a bridge replacement and some
5 sediment control. The low bid was \$8,084,969. The State's
6 estimate was \$4,155,402. It was over the State's estimate by
7 \$3,929,567 or 94.6 percent.

8 As we reviewed the bids, we saw higher than
9 expected pricing in the silica flume concrete. This is an add
10 mixture to concrete that makes it stronger and less permeable.
11 Higher than expected pricing in our reinforcing steel and our
12 structural concrete.

13 But we dug into it a little more, and as we
14 talked to the contractor, we saw that in this area that there's
15 some limitations on the season, and so we put some pretty tight
16 restrictions on the contractor. We put some penalties. They
17 bid a lot of risk into this project that the pricing showed up
18 in.

19 So as we -- we looked at it, the Department
20 requests to reject all bids, allow us to go back. We are going
21 to do a cost assessment or a cost risk assessment on this
22 project, see if we can find ways to reduce some of those risks.
23 One other thing to note on this project, there was only one
24 bidder, so what can we do to make it more desirable for -- to
25 get some more competition and review that. So the Department

1 requests the Board to reject all bids.

2 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Do we have a motion to reject
3 all bids on Item 7B as presented?

4 MR. THOMPSON: I'll make the motion with the --
5 did you mean that this is not deleting the project? It's only
6 going back for rebidding, to re-examine the costs involved in
7 this? And do you have a timeline on it?

8 MR. HAMMIT: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Thompson, I'll
9 answer the first question first. We do intend to do that
10 analysis and re-advertise the project. I will have to get back
11 with you on a time frame, but it will be this fiscal year.

12 MR. THOMPSON: Okay.

13 MR. KNIGHT: I'll second.

14 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. We have a motion by
15 Board Member Thompson, a second by Board Member Knight. Any
16 further discussion?

17 All in favor say aye.

18 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? That motion
20 passes.

21 MR. HAMMIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 Item 9C, this is a local project in the town of
23 Clifton. The low bid was \$1,225,395. The State's estimate was
24 \$889,772. It had a difference of \$335,623 or 37.7 percent. We
25 saw higher than expected pricing in -- basically, the enclosure

1 they had to do for the work. This is a timber bridge, some of
2 the work associated with that. The -- in working with the
3 community, they had asked us to request the postponement.
4 They're looking to find the funds so they can make this award.
5 So at this time, we recommend postpone to a future board
6 meeting.

7 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Is there a motion to postpone
8 Item 7C as presented?

9 MR. KNIGHT: So moved.

10 MR. ELTERS: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Motion by Board Member Knight,
12 seconded by Board Member Elters. Any discussion?

13 All in favor say aye.

14 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

15 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? That motion
16 passes.

17 MR. HAMMIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 Item 7D, a similar request, and you'll see that
19 on 7E as well. But on this project, this is in the city of
20 Avondale. It's to construct a multiuse path. The low bid was
21 200 -- excuse me -- \$2,432,373. The State's estimate was
22 \$2,250,802. It was over the estimate by \$181,572 or 8.1
23 percent. We saw higher than expected pricing for roadway and --
24 road grading for pavement and aggregate base. In this case,
25 Avondale has asked us to request postponement so they can find

1 the funds to move forward on this project.

2 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Is there a motion to postpone
3 Item 7D as presented?

4 MR. ELTERS: So moved.

5 MR. HAMMOND: Second.

6 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Motion by Board Member Elters,
7 second by Board Member Hammond. Any discussion?

8 All in favor say aye.

9 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

10 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? That motion
11 carries.

12 MR. HAMMIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 Another project in the city of Avondale and
14 another multiuse path. In this project the low bid was
15 \$1,311,177. The States's estimate was \$1,107,923. It was over
16 the State's estimate by \$203,254 or 18.3 percent. Again, on
17 this project, the City has asked us to request to postpone so
18 they can find the additional funds.

19 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Is there a motion to postpone
20 Item 7E as presented?

21 MR. ELTERS: So moved.

22 MR. THOMPSON: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Motion by Board Member Elters,
24 second by Board Member Thompson. Any discussion?

25 All in favor say aye.

1 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

2 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? That motion
3 carries.

4 MR. HAMMIT: And our last project, Mr. Chairman,
5 is Item 7F. This is some ITS improvements in the city of
6 Glendale. On this project the low bid was \$1,092,788. The
7 State's estimate was \$884,809. It was over the State's estimate
8 by 207,979 or 23.5 percent.

9 We saw higher than expected pricing in the
10 mobilization. As we dug into that further, it was more so in
11 the directional drilling that they'll need to do to put some of
12 the conduit in for this project. We have reviewed the bid and
13 believe -- the Department believes it is a responsive and
14 responsible bid and recommends award to MP Nexlevel, LLC.

15 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Is there a motion to award
16 Item 7F to MP Nexlevel, LLC as presented?

17 MR. ELTERS: So moved.

18 MR. KNIGHT: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Motion by Board Member Elters,
20 second by Board Member Knight. Any discussion?

21 All in favor say aye.

22 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Any opposed? That motion
24 carries.

25 Thank you, Dallas.

1 MR. HAMMIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Mr. Roehrich, Agenda Item
3 No. 8.

4 MR. ROEHRICH: Thanks, Mr. Chair. And I must say
5 you are making record time. We're going to get out of here in
6 pretty good shape the Friday before Christmas.

7 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Well, it's not done until
8 we're done.

9 MR. ROEHRICH: I know, I know. But considering
10 this is your last meeting as chair, I'm a little sad to see
11 that, because you are blowing through these meetings out here so
12 well, (inaudible) of these. So we'll see. Next year will be
13 another good year I'm sure.

14 Normally -- traditionally or I should say
15 normally the past few years, we have gone through the steps of
16 identifying the chair and vice chair for next year during the
17 December board meeting with the condition that it takes effect
18 January 1st. Meeting with the Board's counsel last week and the
19 board chair, she, after reviewing it formally, said, you know,
20 you're probably not complying with the rule of law if you do
21 that before the month that the chair and vice chair are to take
22 effect.

23 So reviewing that and discussing it with the
24 board chair, we will hold the designation of the new board chair
25 and vice chair at the January's board meeting. By statute, the

1 designation is supposed to take place before the third Friday of
2 January for the year. And since the board meeting --

3 MS. PRIANO: The third Monday.

4 MR. ROEHRICH: Or the third Monday. The third
5 Monday. Thank you. The third Monday of the year. And since
6 the board meeting is the third Friday, we will go ahead and make
7 the designation at that time, and then the new board chair will
8 take over and conduct the meeting and continue on for the rest
9 of the calendar year.

10 By statute, the board chair is the board member
11 with the last full-year term. That will be Mr. Hammond, and
12 then the vice chair is the board member with the second least
13 amount of time left, and that would be Mr. Stratton, by statute
14 and by their affiliation.

15 So normally, we have this on for action this
16 month, but instead we're just identifying it, making sure that
17 we talk with the Board, we're able to answer any questions. And
18 unfortunately, the board attorney is unable to be here. I'll
19 try to answer the best I can. Otherwise, it will be next month
20 we will make the changeover.

21 In addition, Mr. Sellers, as we've discussed with
22 you, you need to continue on on the board, not as the chair --
23 you're going to have to give that up -- but you continue on the
24 board until an appointment -- the governor makes an appointment.

25 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Can we vote on this?

1 MR. ROEHRICH: Unfortunately, no. Well,
2 actually, you can do whatever you want. I just can't make it
3 effective because of the law, so...

4 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: I'd be happy to pass the
5 baton.

6 MR. ROEHRICH: Exactly. So we will do that.
7 That will be the first item of business when we meet in January,
8 and a reminder that January's board meeting is the 17th, and it
9 is in the city of Yuma. 17th. I think I got that right.
10 Friday, the 17th, in the city of Yuma.

11 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Thank you, Floyd.

12 And to that point, it is my intention to continue
13 on the Board until there is a replacement for me, because
14 otherwise, we would end up with only five board members.
15 Although, with what's been going on in Maricopa County lately, I
16 can't guarantee I can make all the meetings, but I will
17 certainly try.

18 Okay. Thank you.

19 Moving on to Agenda Item No 9 --

20 MR. ELTERS: Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Oh.

22 MR. KNIGHT: I just have a question.

23 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Will we allow him to
24 have a question?

25 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, I don't see any reason

1 unless it's not, unless you do.

2 MR. KNIGHT: Are we good?

3 So my question is to Floyd. Did I hear you
4 correctly if the term is due on the third Friday of the year --

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Third Monday. The third Monday of
6 January, the board chair and vice chair are to be designated by
7 the year, by the third Monday.

8 MR. KNIGHT: And the Board is meeting on the
9 third Friday. Isn't there an issue there, because the third
10 Monday is before the third Friday?

11 MR. ROEHRICH: No. If you look at the calendar
12 next year, actually, the third Friday is before the third
13 Monday.

14 MS. PRIANO: Yeah. (Inaudible.)

15 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: You know, Board Member --

16 MR. KNIGHT: (Inaudible.)

17 MS. PRIANO: The third Friday is the 17th, and
18 the third Monday is the 20th. The first Monday is the 6th.

19 MR. HAMMOND: You know, Board Member Knight and
20 Floyd, the way you're going with this, do you want to object to
21 the incoming chair? You'll have time.

22 MR. KNIGHT: I was hoping to establish a ground
23 first.

24 MR. HAMMOND: Now, Floyd, you're not done yet,
25 are you?

1 MS. PRIANO: (Inaudible.)

2 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, Mr. Hammond only if
3 there's questions again about designating the chair and vice
4 chair, but we do have obviously recognitions and some
5 acknowledgement that we want to make for Mr. Sellers. So
6 there's another item.

7 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Yeah. He was rushing to
8 adjournment. (Inaudible.)

9 MR. ROEHRICH: (Inaudible.) I was going to make
10 sure.

11 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Well, you know, isn't
12 this normally where we've already passed the baton and I get to
13 just...

14 MS. PRIANO: (Inaudible.)

15 MR. ROEHRICH: Normally, for the past few years,
16 yes, but we -- you obviously have a couple of other -- at least
17 just one more point of business that we'd like to make, and
18 Mr. Sellers, with your okay, I'm going to move forward into the
19 next item.

20 And that is to talk about your tenure here and
21 the fact that after six long years, you're probably happy to
22 relish this time, but I know we are definitely going to miss
23 having you on the board for a lot of reasons.

24 John had some -- a recognition prepared that he
25 was hoping to give. Obviously in January he will, and if he can

1 make the meeting, I'm sure he's going to want to express his
2 personal appreciation as well, because it has been just a
3 pleasure having you on the Board.

4 We do have a -- after six years, I've got nothing
5 to present to you. You didn't win any cash prizes, but I've got
6 some wonderful parting gifts for you --

7 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay.

8 MR. ROEHRICH: -- in recognition of that. And so
9 what we'd like to do, though, is first I want to read his
10 comments that he was preparing, and then we would like to
11 present to you some recognition for that time, because you --
12 each of you are volunteers here. I understand you're appointed
13 by the governor and you make commitments, but you give up your
14 time willingly. You're here every month. We need to
15 communicate between months. There's obviously never any
16 hesitation to do that.

17 So we realize that the effort you put in is
18 probably unsung by a lot of folks, but for us, it really helps
19 us to work with a group of professionals like yourself that are
20 dedicated and committed beyond just the normal of what you do,
21 and there's volunteers into this through your appointment. It's
22 a special relationship we have, but it's also well deserved of
23 what you made. It's a personal, professional commitment to the
24 state of Arizona, and so we do have a couple things that I'd
25 like to say.

1 These are John's comments. These are the ones he
2 had prepared.

3 Today is Chairman Sellers' last meeting as a
4 member of the State Transportation Board barring your continued
5 (inaudible). We'd like to take a few minutes to thank him for
6 his service to ADOT and the State of Arizona.

7 When Mr. Sellers was appointed to the Board back
8 in 2014, then Governor Jan Brewer said he would be a welcome
9 addition to the Board of Transportation because of his
10 understanding and respect for transportation's crucial role and
11 its strength, job growth and global competitiveness. She was
12 right from day one. Mr. Sellers has provided his dedication and
13 expertise to the Board. We appreciate everything you've
14 contributed over the years.

15 Representing the Maricopa County region,
16 Mr. Sellers has always been an advocate of the entire statewide
17 system. He has supported investing in our transportation
18 infrastructure for the future. So much has been accomplished
19 during your time on the Board, including many key projects that
20 helped improve safety and mobility in our state. Around the
21 valley, the Board moved forward on several key projects over the
22 last six years, including the expansion of the loop system
23 along -- improvements on the interstate, obviously the
24 completion of the Loop 202 South Mountain Freeway, which will
25 soon be open to drivers.

1 In recent years, the Board has helped us make
2 progress on several other innovations like the wrong-way driver
3 detection system, moving forward with the I-17 widening project
4 and flex lane project along Interstate 17 between Anthem and
5 Sunset Point.

6 During your time on the Board, there have been
7 other challenges, too. Over the last six years, we've really
8 had to restructure the way we think about projects. Because of
9 limited funding, we've shifted to a preservation and
10 modernization mindset. The Board has helped us to prioritize
11 that funding, which has also allowed the agency to successfully
12 go after grants that have helped us stretch our funding even
13 further.

14 You and the Board have also been instrumental in
15 helping to fund and support our key commerce corridors in an
16 effort to boost Arizona's economic growth and development, and
17 also helped us to look to the future when we envision any
18 projects such as Interstate 11, such as the Sonoran corridor,
19 such as some of the other corridors that -- as Greg had
20 previously said, and we are looking setting ourself up for,
21 again, transportation's investment, transportation role in this
22 state's economy and helping the state grow.

23 On a personal level, you have been so dedicated
24 and just wonderful to work with. You always look for the common
25 ground and are really an advocate for the entire state. You are

1 widely respected and have had such a great -- and have such a
2 great knowledge that you've brought to the Board. It's
3 obviously made us all work better. We appreciate the time and
4 dedication you've given us over the last six years, and we wish
5 you all the best in the future, and we couldn't as staff express
6 our thanks enough for all that you've done and all that you have
7 meant to us. So thank you, Mr. Sellers.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you want to do that in
9 (inaudible).

10 MR. ROEHRICH: So just a few things that we want
11 to do to recognize. One of the issues is we -- service
12 recognition. Even though you're not integral part of ADOT, as
13 the Transportation Board, you're designated as if you
14 (inaudible) ADOT part of the state system. So you do get a
15 service recognition. Even though you're on the Board for six
16 years, we give you a five-year service recognition in
17 recognition of your dedicated service to the State of Arizona
18 and the citizens. It is signed by the governor as well as the
19 director, and in conjunction with receiving the, if you will,
20 service certificate, you also get this pen and pencil set that
21 is commemorative with the State's logo and the -- well, I'll let
22 you open it -- with the ADOT logo, excuse me, not the state
23 logo, but the ADOT logo, but it's representative, again, of a
24 recognition of your service over those five years, and hopefully
25 it's something that you can use and have available to you in the

1 future so. Thank you for that.

2 In addition, there's also a commemorative
3 certificate that is -- and I would read this. "It is remembered
4 that Mr. Jack Sellers represented the State of Arizona on the
5 State Transportation Board from January 2014 to January 2020.
6 Jack represented well the interests of the Arizona State
7 Transportation Board, the Arizona Department of Transportation,
8 and the citizens of Arizona. We extend to him our grateful and
9 sincere appreciation for his special dedication to public
10 service. His contributions were numerous, beneficial, and his
11 labors on behalf of all the people of Arizona will long be
12 remembered."

13 This is one that is signed by each of your peers
14 on the Transportation Board, as well as the director, and again,
15 we hope it's a little commemorative of what you've meant to this
16 whole board, to all your peers here, but as well to all of the
17 staff at the State of Arizona, so thank you -- and ADOT. So
18 thank you very much.

19 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

20 MR. ROEHRICH: And then usually we do another
21 little gift that we ask the board members to get, and that's a
22 little commemorative license plate of the state. It's a copper
23 plate, and it's something that you can personalize for your use,
24 and obviously each board chair always has a nice little saying.
25 We've got one here that Mr. Sellers had picked. It says Jack

1 for Arizona, Jack for AZ, because do I think that as you've
2 shown not only by your dedication, but your service and your
3 relentless spirit, Arizona has always meant something to you,
4 and I know you do a lot of extra work with your trade missions
5 and working with local communities and economic development and
6 all around just looking at how you can better Arizona, which is
7 truly -- truly speaks to your character. So thank you very
8 much, sir.

9 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

10 MR. ROEHRICH: And I know we still have the gift
11 through Arizona Highways that you need to select, and we'll work
12 on getting that set as well, and with that comes whether the
13 gift is or the prescription -- the subscription --

14 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Prescription.

15 MR. ROEHRICH: You probably need a prescription,
16 but the subscription is a Highway magazine. Whatever we work
17 out with you, that is also something --

18 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

19 MR. ROEHRICH: -- that we will present to you as
20 well to commemorate your time. So as always, thank you,
21 Mr. Sellers, and we really, truly wish you the best, and we hope
22 this is not the end of us working together. So thank you.

23 MR. HAMMOND: So Jack, now the roast begins. No.
24 I can remember when I came on to the board, and Joe La Rue, I
25 was talking with him and telling him how six years seems like a

1 MR. HAMMOND: It's a gift card to Costco. It was
2 his request. We wanted to do Nordstrom, but he wanted to be
3 able to buy something with it.

4 MR. ROEHRICH: He wants to get that perfect gift.

5 MR. HAMMOND: Wow. So any other board member
6 want to make a comment, or do you want to wait until January and
7 make sure he shows up?

8 MR. ELTERS: Just in case he does not show up in
9 January, I just want to take the opportunity today and just
10 point out as the junior board member from this direct that Jack
11 represents as well, came on the board, reached out to him. He
12 was very open, flexible, supportive and very helpful, and
13 indeed, it's been a real pleasure working with you, and I hope
14 we get to do that a few more months. Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

16 MR. THOMPSON: Very briefly, let me say in Navajo
17 (speaking Native language), which means thank you for your
18 service and accompaniment, and always are taught to always
19 listen to people in the leadership role, and I certainly have
20 respected your guidance during that time that we have known each
21 other on this board. So thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

23 MR. KNIGHT: And I just would like to thank Jack
24 for all of his help and support, being also a short timer, and
25 not having been on the board as long as most of the rest of you,

1 but for the last two years, it's been a pleasure to work with
2 Jack. He's always been able to answer any questions I've had
3 and been fully supportive of what I've been trying to do off and
4 on. But the main thing is he just is a great leader, and we
5 really will miss him going forward, and I really will be anxious
6 to see him show up in Yuma in January. So let's just hope you
7 can make it.

8 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

9 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you, Jack.

10 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

11 MR. HAMMOND: You want to give a stump speech on
12 vote for Jack Sellers --

13 MR. STRATTON: Mr. Chairman.

14 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Board Member Stratton.

15 MR. HAMMOND: Oh, sorry, Steve.

16 MR. STRATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 First I'd like to apologize for not being there.
18 I am happy you're going to be in Yuma so I can thank you face to
19 face for all the guidance and assistance you have given me, and
20 it's been a true pleasure serving you. Thank you very much.

21 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Well, thank you.

22 You know, the six years sounds like a long time
23 when you're first appointed to the Board, but it really does go
24 fast, and what a great experience this has been. Aside from
25 learning how important a viable statewide system is for our

1 total economy, just the getting to meet and become acquainted
2 with the caliber of people I've met all over the state through
3 this process is just incredible. You know, you really do at our
4 meetings, our board meetings, you get to meet the people that
5 are leaders throughout the state, and to be able to have those
6 people as ongoing friends as you complete this term is really a
7 blessing, and I value that a lot.

8 To that point, I think one of the things that all
9 the chairmen look forward to is the fact that the board meeting
10 in Wickenburg every year is a chairmen's reunion, and aside from
11 the fact that that's a time that the chairmen feel free to tell
12 the current board exactly what they're doing wrong, it really is
13 a great time to get input from all the people that have been in
14 leadership positions for the Board.

15 You know, I -- even though I've served on the
16 Board during a time that we really have not had the money we
17 need to do the projects that are really important, and you know,
18 everybody's probably getting tired of hearing me say that for
19 Maricopa County and Phoenix being the fastest growing city and
20 county in the United States for three years in a row, and unless
21 we're willing to put together a plan and start investing in
22 infrastructure, our lifestyle is not sustainable. The thing
23 that attracts people to come to this state and to this region
24 isn't sustainable unless we're willing to start investing in our
25 future.

1 You know, I've said more than once, too, that we
2 really have -- in Maricopa County today, we have a pretty nice
3 system. You know, even though since I now with my position in
4 Maricopa County come downtown pretty often and I complain about
5 traffic, you know, most of the people who move here from
6 somewhere else say you've got nothing to complain about. This
7 is really not bad. Take me an hour to go 20 minutes, they think
8 is really not bad at all. But the reason we have the system we
9 have today is because leadership 20 years ago had a plan, and
10 they got money put into the plan to build the system we have
11 today, and I don't see that happening right now.

12 We really need -- and so, you know, good news and
13 bad news. The good news is that I'm not done. I -- you know,
14 when I left the Chandler City Council, I said that as well. I
15 said, you know, folks, I'm not going away. The bad news is
16 you're going to have to put up with me and all my ranting and
17 all my -- all the things I want to see get accomplished for as
18 long as people will continue to allow me to serve in a position
19 where I have any kind of influence at all.

20 So again, I feel so fortunate to have been able
21 to serve in this position. I think that it's been a real
22 blessing for me to meet the people that I've met, and I value
23 those friendships, and I'm not going away.

24 So thank you.

25 Okay. I guess I should call for suggestions for

1 any future meetings. Anyone have any suggestions for future
2 meetings?

3 MR. THOMPSON: Chairman, earlier in the year I
4 did request for some whether it's going to have happen or not,
5 (inaudible) but I think it's good to put on the table for
6 information purposes is that looking at whether the process and
7 granting right of ways on tribal lands to ADOT, for road
8 improvement and road construction. I'd like to see this be part
9 of a study session or we may maybe invite the Native American
10 community, and depending on maybe the amount of time that it's
11 going to take to do this. So again, that will be my wish. So
12 thank you very much.

13 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. And I actually have
14 one.

15 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: With the tour we had yesterday
17 of the South Mountain Freeway, one of the things that our tour
18 guide, Rob, did is explained to us as we drove around to the
19 various areas some of the other projects that are coming up, and
20 one of the things he really talked about a lot was the work
21 that's going to be done on the Broadway Curve soon. And you
22 know, just listening to him talk about that project -- it's
23 going to be a \$700 million project. Just listening to him talk
24 about that project, it sounds like South Mountain is a cakewalk.

25 The Broadway Curve, particularly for those of us

1 that have to drive from Chandler to downtown Phoenix in the
2 future is going to be interesting. And so, you know, I thought
3 that passing the baton to Chairman Hammond, incoming Chairman
4 Hammond, might be a good thing, but now that I'm Maricopa County
5 supervisor for District One, I don't think I'm going to be off
6 the hook for complaints that people have about what that project
7 is going to do. You know, very, very necessary project, but I
8 guess what -- long story short, what I'm asking for is I'd like
9 the Board to have an update on that project, because it's really
10 going to be an interesting, challenging project.

11 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, absolutely, because I
12 really -- I got the same sense you did. The thing about South
13 Mountain, remember, is it was a greenfield project for the most
14 part, 22 miles. There was no other traffic they had to deal
15 with. Yes, so I made the connections about both ends of I-10,
16 especially in the West Valley where they had to reconstruct
17 those four and a half miles.

18 That kind of gave me a taste of what the traffic
19 control and flow of traffic is going to be like when they do the
20 work on the Broadway Curve. With the exception of the Broadway
21 Curve, got 250, 260,000 vehicles a day through it. The west
22 side, you know, of the valley has probably only got about
23 200,000 or so. So it is going to be a significant impact, had a
24 significant impact on the access to the airport as well.

25 So I would work with Rob and the state engineer.

1 I think to kind of give you a overview of the project,
2 constructability issues, and if you will, some of the issues
3 with traffic management control when you look at the impact of
4 widening the existing road as opposed to a new fill road, but
5 that -- it will be quite an impact to drivers.

6 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Yeah. And you know, I think
7 the most striking thing that he said was every single bridge in
8 the Broadway Curve will have to be replaced. Think about that.

9 MR. ELTERS: Mr. Chairman, a couple of things.
10 Rob did provide a presentation to the MAG Regional Council on
11 that project, and what the Department and MAG are doing shortly
12 to look ahead and inform the public to understand the origin and
13 destination of traffic and be mindful of the fact that 143 leads
14 to the airport. And so I think it will be really nice to get
15 that update, and I think the Board will be impressed by what the
16 Department and MAG are doing in anticipation of this project.

17 The other comment that I'd like, if I may, is I
18 did ask at the last board meeting for the information related to
19 grants, how many of them and success rate and such. That was
20 provided today. That is very impressive. The fact that almost
21 \$200 million was brought in and given the comments that board
22 members and staff have made as far as cost increases and what's
23 happening to our ability to deliver the program, I think that
24 goes a long way in helping us. So kudos. Thank you for sharing
25 that information, and the fact that nearly 40 percent success

1 rate. That's great. So thank you. I just wanted to
2 acknowledge the staff for bringing that information forth.

3 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Okay. Thank you.

4 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, just some final
5 comments I want to make sure that we get in.

6 I want to thank Linda Priano for all of the
7 effort that is done to take care of us and the Board this year,
8 getting all the things together for this meeting. But as well,
9 the amount of effort to coordinate with a different venue every
10 month takes quite a bit of work, and her attention to detail and
11 ability to follow through on that really makes these meetings go
12 well. And we don't see a lot of what goes on between meetings,
13 but she -- the effort that sometimes goes in, there are times
14 I'm scared to go visit her, because I'm afraid. But if I leave
15 her, she solves every problem. It's just amazing. So I wanted
16 to thank her.

17 I wanted to wish all of you a happy holiday, and
18 I hope you have a safe holiday as well, and spend it with family
19 and friends. And as well, thank MAG for us coming here. It's
20 always good to use the facilities and having a chance to get the
21 Board and staff and others to come out and use this and continue
22 to meet all the different people out there and hear their issues
23 that affect the state. So as well it helps you, and it helps
24 us. So happy holidays, everyone. Drive safe. Have a joyful
25 holiday.

1 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: Thank you.

2 MR. HAMMOND: So moved.

3 MR. ELTERS: Second.

4 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: We have a motion -- we have a
5 motion and a second --

6 MR. ROEHRICH: So did we just move happy
7 holidays?

8 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: We have a motion and a second
9 to adjourn.

10 MR. ROEHRICH: Oh, okay.

11 CHAIRMAN SELLERS: And let me say something to
12 you. Robert's Rules of Order, I don't even have to have that
13 motion. The chair can declare the meeting is adjourned.

14 (Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.)

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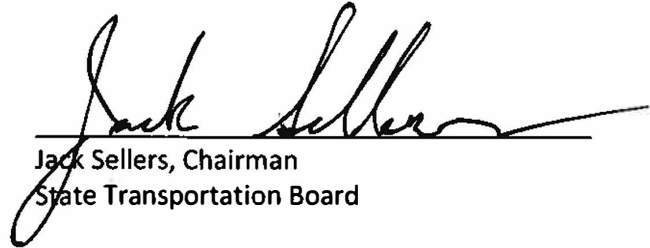
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Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the December 20, 2019 State Transportation Board meeting was made by Board Member Hammond and seconded by Board Member Elters. In a voice vote, the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m. MST.



Jack Sellers, Chairman
State Transportation Board



Floyd Roehrich, Jr. ADOT Executive Officer
Arizona Department of Transportation