ARIZONA STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STUDY SESSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

TELECONFERENCE STUDY SESSION

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REPORTED BY:

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PREPARED FOR:
ADOT - STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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1	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF EXCERPT OF ELECTRONIC
2	PROCEEDINGS, ADOT - STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD STUDY SESSION,
3	was reported from electronic media by TERESA A. WATSON,
4	Registered Merit Reporter and a Certified Reporter in and for
5	the State of Arizona.
6	
7	PARTICIPANTS:
8	Board Members:
9	Michael S. Hammond, Chairman Steven E. Stratton, Vice Chairman Jesse Thompson, Board Member Sam Elters, Board Member
10	
11	Gary Knight, Board Member Richard Searle, Board Member
12	Jenn Daniels, Board Member
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1	CALL TO THE AUDIENCE
2	SPEAKER: PAGE:
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4	Ana Olivares, Pima County Transportation Director 7
5	Charlie Odegaard, Flagstaff City Council, Metropolitan
6	Vice Chair
7	
8	
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10	<pre>Item 1 - FY 2021-2025 ADOT Tentative Five-Year</pre>
11	Bryes, Division Director, Multimodal Planning Division and Kristine Ward, Chief Financial Officer
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1 (Beginning of excerpt.) 2 3 CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: We're going to do the call to 4 the audience now. I'm going to actually read these 5 instructions, because they're fairly detailed, and as the 6 technology, I think this particular specific technology we're 7 using for the first time, listen carefully, and we do have four 8 to five speakers. This is a teleconference website or Webex 9 conference meeting. Everyone will be muted when they call in to 10 the meeting. When your name is called to provide your comments, 11 you will indicate your presence by virtually raising your hand, 12 using your phone keypad, or through the Webex application. 13 Webex host will guide you through the unmuting and muting 14 process following instructions included with the meeting agenda. 15 A reminder that a three-minute time limit will be 16 imposed. 17 So let's go to the call to the audience. 18 MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, this is Floyd. 19 will go ahead and call out the names. We have --20 CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Floyd, you can hear? 21 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, sir. Yes, sir, Mr. Chair. 22 This is Floyd. 23 So we have four requests. The order of requests 24 will be Mr. Charlie Odegaard, Mr. Jeff Meilbeck, Ms. Ana 25 Olivares, and Ms. Jodi Rooney. I would ask that all four of

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1
     those people use the raise their hand option based upon whether
 2
     they logged in on a phone or Webex computer, internet browser or
 3
     Webex iPhone application as outlined in the agenda, and once
 4
     that happens, our meeting host, Ms. Hayley Estelle, will go
 5
     ahead and unmute them so they can do their comments.
 6
                    So first subpoena Mr. Charlie Odegaard,
 7
     Councilman for the City of Flagstaff.
 8
                    Please unmute Mr. Odegaard.
 9
                    WEBEX HOST: Mr. Odegaard, this is Hayley
10
     Estelle, your host this morning. If you've joined us using
11
     (inaudible), please press star nine on your touch tone keypad to
12
     virtually raise your hand, and I'll unmute your line.
13
                    Floyd, I'm not seeing any feedback from
14
     Mr. Odegaard.
15
                    MR. ROEHRICH: Okay. How about Jeff Meilbeck?
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                    Mr. Meilbeck, are you on the phone? Could you
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     please raise your hand so we can unmute you?
18
                    WEBEX HOST: Jeff. Jeff, this is Hayley.
19
     your hand raised. I'm going to go ahead and unmute you.
20
     do that, you'll hear two tones.
21
                    MR. MEILBECK: Thank you.
22
                    Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, can you hear
23
     me?
24
                    MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, we can.
25
                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Yes, we can.
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MR. MEILBECK: My name is Jeff Meilbeck. I'm the executive director of the Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization, also known as Greater Flagstaff MetroPlan.

I'm here today for three reasons. One, to acknowledge the fiscal challenges and economic uncertainty that you and we all face; two, to recognize the difficult choices that need to be made by this board and ADOT administration; and three, to underscore the criticality of the Rio de Flag Bridge replacement that's budgeted in fiscal year '20 on your five-year plan and recently deferred to fiscal year '21 in your draft plan.

I know that everyone in this virtual room can make a strong case for the merits of any of their projects.

There is clearly more that needs to be done and can be done.

That said, the Rio de Flag Bridge replacement has a few other significant considerations. One, the project is part of a larger flood control project that has been in the works for decades. Two, the safety issues risked by delay could be severe, dare I say catastrophic, from an economic and public safety for perspective, and three, the City of Flagstaff not only has an IGA with ADOT to complete this project -- the City has already invested close to 2 million for their part -- and finally the project is heavily leveraged. In addition to City funding and State funding, the Army Corps of Engineers will be investing over \$60 million.

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                    At all times, and particularly in a time of
 2
     economic challenge, a project as heavily leveraged as this, a
 3
     project that brings $10 million to the table in the state
 4
     economy is critical.
 5
                    So I want to thank ADOT for continuing to program
 6
     the Rio de Flag Bridge project in fiscal year '21. I will thank
 7
     you, the Board and the ADOT team for keeping funding in fiscal
 8
     year '21 as we move forward. So (inaudible) and be well.
 9
                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Thank you very much,
10
     Mr. Meilbeck.
11
                    Floyd.
12
                    MR. ROEHRICH: One more check. Mr. Odegaard,
13
     were you able to use your raise your hand function?
14
                    WEBEX HOST: Good morning, Floyd. This is
15
     Hayley. I still don't see feedback from Mr. Odegaard. I did
16
     send him a note to ask him to reach out to me directly to let me
17
     know how he's joined so we can give him the proper instructions
18
     for notifying us that he's in the room.
19
                    MR. ROEHRICH: Thank you.
20
                    Ana Olivares, are you there? Will you please
21
     raise your hand?
22
                    WEBEX HOST: Thank you. Ana, I see your hand
23
     raised. I'm going to go ahead and unmute you. When I do that,
24
     you'll hear two tones.
25
                    MS. OLIVARES: Good morning, Mr. Chair and
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members of the Board. Can you hear me?

2 CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: We can.

MS. OLIVARES: Perfect. My name is Ana Olivares, and I'm the Transportation Director for Pima County. I thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I'm here to speak on the 2021 to 2025 Tentative Five-Year Program.

We take this opportunity to reiterate how important expanding transportation infrastructure is to our policy initiative to grow our local and regional economy. We continue to request your support in accelerating federal projects that are critical to the Pima County's economic growth. We understand these are unprecedented times, and managing reduced revenues is a challenge. However, we in Pima County have overcome some of our own challenges to initiate these critical projects, and we do not want to lose any momentum and will continue to advocate for their acceleration.

We request to make the following amendments to the tentative plan prior to approval: Program the funding for both the design and construction of the I-10 interchange at Pima Parkway and the interstate underpass along Forgeus Road. These improvements are necessary to support a major regional sports park completed and open to the public. In addition, we continue to pursue private public partnerships for additional entertainment venues at this location.

We request to program additional funding to

continue with a tier 2 study of the Saguaro Corridor in fiscal '21 of this five-year program. Completion of the tier 1 EIS is scheduled for fall of 2020, and identifying funding for an immediate continuation under tier 2 study is critical to continue the momentum that has been built with stakeholders during the tier 1 study. We have all seen how a new corridor can modify traffic patterns by providing alternate travel routes and stimulate commercial development. The Sonoran Corridor has the potential to booststrap significant economic development in southern Arizona similar to the rapid growth experienced along the South Mountain Freeway extension.

And last, we request to program adequate funding for the I-10/Sunset interchange improvements within the I-10/Ina to Ruthrauff widening project. Pima County is continuing the design of the Sunset Innovation Campus in the southwest quadrant of the interchange and the connection from I-10 to River Road, including a railroad (inaudible) separation is necessary for this campus to be successful. We are working with the Southcentral District and PAG to make sure that permanent (inaudible) interchange improvements are completed with the ADOT widening project.

Thank you very much for your time today.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Thank you, Ms. Olivares.

Floyd.

MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Odegaard, I understand you now

are here. Could you please raise your hand?

WEBEX HOST: Hi, Charlie. This is Hayley. Thank you for your patience this morning. I'm going to go ahead and unmute you. When I do that, you'll hear two tones on your end.

MR. ODEGAARD: Okay. Can you hear me now?

WEBEX HOST: Yes, sir.

MR. ODEGAARD: Okay. Thank you very much. Thank you for your patience. I'm not very computer literate, so thank you, board members.

Good morning, Chairman Hammond and Vice Chair Stratton and the board members. Thank you for the opportunity to address you this morning.

And to introduce myself, I'm Charlie Odegaard from the City of Flagstaff. We understand the State Transportation Board reached a decision to defer the funding for the Rio de Flag Bridge replacement by City Hall (inaudible) was postponed to the next fiscal year, and it's my understanding that that happened with the proposed five-year plan, and I want to thank you for that.

ADOT bridge replacement projects has been integrated with the Rio de Flag Flood Control Project that's being delivered by the Army Corps of Engineers in partnership with the City of Flagstaff. The City of Flagstaff entered into an IGA with ADOT to provide the necessary (inaudible) required by ADOT's bridge replacement projects and has paid \$670,000 for

rock excavation beneath the new bridge to ensure the new bridge is not damaged when the Army Corps completes the flood control improvements. And the City has recently completed \$1.3 million of necessary utility relocation work in the vicinity of the new bridge at ADOT's request.

This new bridge will provide a 100-year flood conveyance capacity that will protect property, the traveling public and associated infrastructure, enhance our economy, ensure the safety of our residents who reside in the floodplain. The Army Corps has estimated that nearly \$1 billion worth of damage would be suffered if a major flood event would occur, and that number was generated during the recession of 2008.

The \$120 million Rio de Flag Flood Control

Project is the most significant capital undertaken by our

community, and it's urgently needed to address flood mitigation

in the (inaudible). We respectfully ask that ADOT be mindful

upon the safety component of our Rio de Flag Flood Control

Project and ensure that a critical and integrated bridge

replacement project on Route 66 is not deferred beyond the

fiscal year '20 to '21.

And again, it's my understanding that will happen in the next fiscal year, and I appreciate the cooperation that ADOT -- that has done with the partner of the City of Flagstaff. So thank you very much this morning.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Thank you, Mr. Odegaard.

1 Floyd. 2. MR. ROEHRICH: And last is Ms. Jodi Rooney. 3 Ms. Rooney, have you accessed the web event? 4 WEBEX HOST: Yes. Good morning, Floyd. This is 5 Hayley. I see Ms. Rooney has raised her hand. 6 Ms. Rooney, you've raised your hand for the 7 teleconference. I'm going to go ahead and unmute your line. 8 When I do that, you'll hear two tones, and you'll be unmuted. 9 MS. ROONEY: Chairman Hammond, board members, 10 Director Halikowski and staff, thank you so much for your good 11 work here for the citizens of Arizona. 12 Good morning. This is Jodi Rooney, and I'm 13 participating from Yavapai County today. Well, it has been a 14 long time. This is not the first time I've addressed the State 15 Transportation Board. 16 ADOT has been a good partner. You have helped us 17 with many projects over the years, and it is our intention to 18 continue to be innovative and follow through. 19 We also appreciate Board Member Gary Knight 20 representing us. 21 I-17 by its very nature requires multiple 22 improvements and maintenance. ADOT, FHWA and regional partners 23 have always stepped up. Our current national economic situation 24 has required us all to sacrifice. We are seeing this with the 25 tentative five-year program. While we understand this, I would

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1
     like to speak to and ask that I-17 continue to remain a
 2
     priority, and we're speaking directly (inaudible) the project
 3
     868000. That's I-17 from Anthem Way TI to Cordes Junction.
 4
     It's a study, roadway and widening design and construction.
 5
     It's a huge project, and we don't take that lightly.
 6
                    I also would like a consideration of not just
 7
     I-17 to remain a priority, but also I know Supervisor Thurman
 8
     from Yavapai County was in the (inaudible) had sent a letter
 9
     regarding the McGuireville TI. Certainly this has not been on
10
     the program for a long time. However, we would like for it to
11
     remain on the radar, please.
12
                    So I respectfully ask this of our board, and we
13
     thank you for your leadership.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Thank you very much,
15
     Ms. Rooney.
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                    Floyd, is that the last speaker we have on the
17
     agenda?
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                    MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, that is the last call
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     to the audience. We can close that function and move on to Item
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     1 if you so choose.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay. Let's end the call to
22
     the audience and move on now to Item 1. This is the review of
23
     the fiscal year 2021 to 2025 ADOT Tentative Five-Year
24
     Transportation Facilities Construction Program. That
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presentation will be Greg Byres, the Division Director,

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1
     Multimodal Planning, and with Kristine Ward, our Chief Financial
 2
     Officer. It's for information and (inaudible) discussion only.
 3
                    MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, this is Floyd. I
 4
     would ask if Kristine is here if she wanted to start. She had
 5
     comments I think she wanted to make, and then Greq Byres does
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     have a presentation that we will call up and share that. But to
 7
     start with, I'd ask Kristine --
 8
                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: (Inaudible.)
 9
                    MR. ROEHRICH: -- if she has her comments.
10
                    MS. WARD: Very good. Thank you, Floyd. Good
11
     morning, Mr. Chair. Good morning, board members.
12
                    Since we met two weeks ago, we do not have
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     additional data. We will be getting in our next HURF numbers on
14
     the 9th. I expect we'll get those numbers out to you per Board
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     Member Daniels' request, and then those numbers will comprise
16
     April's activity. So you will see the first full month of COVID
17
     activity in those figures.
18
                    Until that time, we'll be following up with
19
     (inaudible) continue to look at the (inaudible) for the grant.
20
     We'll be updating cash flows and, of course, following the
21
     information that flows in from the market and other sources.
22
                    With that, that completes my report, and I'd be
23
     happy to take any questions.
24
                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Board members, would you like
25
     any questions of Ms. Ward? Anybody want an update of what she
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- 1 | presented last meeting or are we good to go?
- Okay. Hearing no questions, I guess, Greg,
- 3 | you're up.
- 4 Thank you, Ms. Ward.
- 5 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, board
- 6 | members. Good morning. We'll get the presentation up here in
- 7 | just a second.
- 8 So I have just a quick presentation to go
- 9 through. Next slide.
- This -- we're just going to kind of go through
- 11 | pretty much the same information that we went through last time
- 12 | with a little bit of an update. We will be going through the
- 13 | background, the tentative five-year delivery program, as well as
- 14 | MAG and PAG's programs and aeronautics.
- So as far as the background goes, again, the
- 16 | tentative five-year program was presented to the State
- 17 | Transportation Board on February 21st. That was our initial
- 18 | tentative recommendation. We went through, were supposed to
- 19 | have planned public hearings for March and April, which were
- 20 | canceled. Then, of course, we had the revenue future
- 21 projections that were changed. So we have put together the
- 22 | revisions to the tentative five-year program, which you should
- 23 | have received a copy of that we're going through, and that is
- 24 | what our recommendations are still today.
- 25 The five-year program must be approved by the

1 | State Transportation Board on June 30th. That's by statute.

2 The fiscal year starts on July 1, and we must be fiscally

3 | constrained.

So as of today, we have received 41 website respondents, 3 email comments, 3 phone comments, and public hearing comments. The major themes that were included in those comments was the widening of I-10 from Casa Grande to the 202, widening of I-17 from Anthem to Sunset Point, widening of SR-260 at Lion Springs, the widening of US-93, repaving of various highways statewide, repair pavement on I-17 within the Phoenix area, pavement preservation of US-60 and SR-260 in the White Mountains, reconstruct the I-10 Gila River Bridge, start construction of I-11, place the West Kingman TI back into the current program, and construct new port of entry/modernize existing port of entry and build a new corridor road in the city of Douglas. We've received those as well as the comments that were presented earlier in this meeting.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: And Greg, are these -- are those comments in any order of numbers or are they just randomly in any order?

MR. BYRES: Those are just randomly gone through.

We -- the majority of the comments we received were all single comments, but we did receive some that had multiples on those.

I believe you've received copies of all of our comments previously. I believe Floyd sent those out to you. So if any

other ones come through, we will certainly get those to you.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay. Thank you.

Board members, if you have questions through Mr. Byres' presentation, don't hesitate to interrupt.

MR. BYRES: So as we go through, again, we break down all of our investment categories into three different categories: Preservation, modernization and expansion. Again, this is just a quick review of what those entail. Preservation, again, is investment to keep pavement smooth and maintain bridges. Modernization is non-capacity investment that improves safety and operations. And expansion is investment that adds capacity to the highway system.

So this is the same slide that you saw at the board meeting previously. This goes through and shows each of the five years in the program. Green being preservation, red being modernization, the purple being project development, yellow being planning, and the blue being expansion. We really don't have any blue with the exception of the hashed marks on 2021, which is at 26.25 million, and that 26.25 million includes 25 million for US-95 and 1.25 million for SR-69. That 25 million for 95 was a State appropriation.

So a lot of the comments that we had received earlier were for specific projects. Several of those projects are in this program, and we can kind of go through and detail those out with more detailed comment and comment resolution

summary, and we can -- we'll pass that on to -- we'll just plan on passing that on to you either later on today or tomorrow so that you'll have that information.

As far as the program itself, as we go through it, looking at the big pie chart, this includes MAG and PAG funding, along with all of our Greater Arizona funding, and you can see that we've got 42 percent in expansion, 12 percent in modernization, and 46 percent in preservation. Compared to last year's program, which had 26 percent expansion, which did not include the 3 percent that we had for legislative appropriations, 10 percent modernization, and 41 percent in preservation.

When we look at the Greater Arizona area isolated by itself, what you see here is that we only have 1 percent expansion, which was that 26 million that we just discussed, 23 percent is in modernization, and 76 percent is in preservation.

Just as a note of reference, in the Long Range

Transportation Plan, the recommendations that we had for Greater

Arizona was 25 percent modernization and 75 percent

preservation.

As we go into the development years, we're staying consistent with the information that we currently have. Trying to maintain roughly about 290 million in preservation, and again, no expansion.

In the MAG region, MAG does its own planning with

- 1 | the exception of some preservation projects on state routes.
- 2 This is the information -- the latest information that we have
- 3 | from MAG, which was a rebalancing that was done in September
- 4 | with all the projects listed.
- In the PAG region, it's the same thing. PAG does
- 6 | their own planning with the exception of some preservation on
- 7 | state routes, and this is a list of the projects that they have
- 8 | within their region. Mostly on I-10, with projects also on
- 9 | SR-77 and I-19.
- 10 We also have the aeronautics or the airport
- 11 | improvement program. With it we have the different programs
- 12 | that we run for grants. We have the FSL, which is the
- 13 | federal/state local. We currently have it at \$5 million
- 14 | dollars. The state/local, which is SL, at \$10 million. The
- 15 APMS at \$7 million. Grand Canyon Airport is currently at
- 16 | \$15 million. State planning services for aeronautics at
- 17 | 1.1 million, for a total of 38.15 million.
- And with that I will take whatever questions you
- 19 | may have.
- 20 | CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Greg, I have one question, and
- 21 | then I'll turn it over to the others. This is, I think, the
- 22 | third presentation of the tentative plan. I know we've been
- 23 | constrained by a lot of things, but has there been any material
- 24 | changes from the first presentation to this presentation in the
- 25 | five-year plan active plan, or is it just basically the same

1 one?

MR. BYRES: We have gone through and made sure that we had everything balanced. We roughly have about 140 projects currently programmed through the five years. Most of those are in the first two years of the program. We don't normally program all the way out to the fifth year. Those are maintained within -- those funds are maintained within the subprograms. But we have gone through and made sure that's we have addressed some of the comments that have come in to date.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay. Other board members?

VICE CHAIR STRATTON: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Board Member Stratton.

VICE CHAIR STRATTON: Greg, this may be a question for you. It may be for John. At the last meeting, I requested to see if we could delay the June 30th deadline. Have we got an answer to that yet?

MR. BYRES: So there is a state statute that says that the five-year program does have to be completed by June 30th. We would have to get some kind of a variance away from that state statute. I know Michelle, the attorney for the Board, had chimed in with comments stating that that should be met.

VICE CHAIR STRATTON: I understand the statute,

Greg. I believe the Director was going to speak to the Governor about that issue. The IRS delayed taxes for two months. I

don't see why we can't delay a five-year plan and get some good data. I know we have April coming in like Kristine said, but there's quite a difference in what I have seen between what was happening in April and what's happening now.

I do own commercial property. Can I tell you the activity has been -- in the past few months wasn't much, but my phone is ringing quite a bit the past couple weeks, people interested in different buildings. So the fuel stations, I've had to stay in line every time I got fuel. The traffic that was on on Memorial Day weekend was reminiscent what was several years ago. I had believed that we can't set a trend off of one month. It takes two or three months, and I think we need to have more data before we try and adopt a five-year plan.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Well, I think that Board

Member Stratton has a valid point, because it needs to be asked

maybe a little more strongly. (Inaudible) of my question. We

don't -- we really don't have -- I think Ms. Ward, she said two

weeks of real data (inaudible). If we can't expand it, that's

fine, but I would think -- I would think (inaudible) question

ought to be asked of someone (inaudible) the Governor on whether

we could delay 30 days (inaudible) data.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Hello. So this is the Director. In answer to Mr. Stratton's question, I don't have an answer to whether we can ignore the statute, but I think what

we're talking about is, kind of in a semantics way, what does it mean that, you know, we approve a five-year plan by June 30th, when as we've seen in the past, we amend that plan throughout the year. So I want to reiterate it's not final and done and we can never touch it again if revenues improve.

On the revenue side, Mr. Stratton is correct, I think, that there are categories of the economy that are probably picking up and showing some strength, and as he said or Mr. Hammond said, one week or one month does not a trend make.

And so what we're asking the Board to do is really to approve what I call more of a tentative program by June 30th, because if Kristine will join me in this discussion, we're watching the numbers right now to establish a trend of two or three months, because her fuel numbers come in at least a month behind, if I recall, or not more. So we're trying to track the revenues to see that if we can start including projects back based on the go forward ideas she has.

So it's not like I-17 is out. It's not like we're saying no more money will come in for the rest of the year other than what we've projected, and she's been working with other economists, and we've been working with the Governor's budget staff to provide another set of eyes on our logic. But I think what we're asking you for here is a little bit of patience and time to establish a better trend, because our data doesn't come in the same way the transaction privilege tax data does on

a monthly basis. We're usually running a little behind.

So Kristine, I don't know if you want to join in this discussion, but Mr. Chairman, the bottom line is is that the program is dynamic. Even though we sign off on one by the end of June, there's nothing that prohibits the Board, if revenues are stronger, to adding things back in. So I don't know if we really need to say we need an executive order or delay it to the 30th day. I think we just need to recognize that we have a dynamic and changing program, but we need a little bit of time here to see what the revenues look like, because we do have to be fiscally constrained.

Kristine, I'd ask you to comment, and I know we've been working on this and discussing it intensively for the past two weeks with various people. Is there anything you want to add?

MS. WARD: Director, you're absolutely correct. The program is set up in such a way that we are able to (inaudible) and change the program throughout the year if new revenues become available, and naturally that was intention when we originally did the reforecast of the revenues with COVID coming into the picture.

The reason that (inaudible) reforecast 2021 and '22 as opposed to (inaudible) forecast a much longer period is because we were in such unknown territory and because what we needed, those two just what you said, sir, buy ourselves some

time. So we forecasted a short period knowing that we would -we have the ability to come in and change the program, but we
need -- we just made, and I think Mr. Stratton hit upon the
point, as well as you, Director, that we need to just get some
data in to see just what the impacts are going to be in what is
an unprecedented situation.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Kristine, could you talk a little bit about how your fuel revenues come in for that?

Please understand it's not (inaudible) and we know how much tax is coming in.

MS. WARD: Well, certainly, sir.

So when the next (inaudible) that's going to be coming in will be April's activities, and we will get April's fuel tax activity -- fuel tax (inaudible) send us those fuel tax reports. They're required to report by the 27th of every month, following the month of activity. So April's activity, they report by May 27th, and then it takes a few days to get the reports processed, and then I report, and then we close HURF, meaning that's when we have the final distribution numbers that we send over to the treasurer to do the distribution, and then we have the numbers that I report out to the Board the third week of that month.

So we're looking at about a three-month delay from the activity being the date of the actual activity, the fuel tax activity, people going and purchasing fuel, to the time

that we actually know the figures.

2 Did that help you, sir?

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Yes. Director, I don't push back very often, but I think that this discussion even -- essentially, it's the point that we're improving something that we're -- with data is very sketchy, and even if it's symbolic, we would have much better data (inaudible), for example, by the July board meeting, if it just has to be approved the end of June, and I think we (inaudible) we put out a (inaudible) plan. It's a plan. Even though we amend it, I know that, but I'd kind of come down on the side of Director Stratton and -- but (inaudible) symbolic, we shouldn't approve a plan (inaudible) that we're using.

MR. ELTERS: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Yes.

MR. ELTERS: This is Board Member Elters. I'd like to jump in and weigh in on a couple of thoughts to -- I think we're saying the same thing, that the staff is in -- we need some patience, because we have little data, and the Board (inaudible) let's be patient (inaudible) a little data. That's occurred (inaudible) board meeting presentation where Ms. Ward made it clear that we had very (inaudible) and we have a lot of uncertainty. So it seems to me we have taken the path of, okay, even though we have limited data and a lot of uncertainty, we assume the worst case scenario. We change the program or revise

it to reflect the worst case scenario, and the Board (inaudible) to go along with the worst case scenario (inaudible) five-year program because the five-year program is dynamic.

(Inaudible) that we don't have enough data. We have a lot of uncertainty. Let's leave it alone, be patient, and if we must, adopt the five-year program in June. Let's adopt the five-year program that we started with in hand, and then recognizing that it's dynamic and we can change it. We will revise it and change it once we have more data to rely on.

I'm really not sure that I can support the approach of let's (inaudible) program in -- under the presumption that funding is going to be severely impacted.

Hence I would -- you know, I would think (inaudible) what we heard from Board Member Stratton, that is, you know, (inaudible) federal agency such (inaudible) in delay, the deadline for filing tax (inaudible), I think there should be an opportunity given these very unusual conditions to (inaudible) before we adopt the five-year program.

But having said that, if we must adopt it by June 30th and there's no way to get beyond the hurdle of the statutes calling for an adoption in June, I would recommend we adopt the five-year program we had originally and wait for the data as opposed to (inaudible) worst case scenario (inaudible). Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Well, board member, I don't

certainly want to go to jail over this issue, so --

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So Mr. Chairman and Mr. Elters, your points are well taken, but I did not mean to imply that the program we're asking you to adopt, the revised program is not fiscally constrained, and based on the data we have, and that's why we're asking you to adopt the recast or revised program, because we're certain that one's fiscally constrained. Perhaps it's too fiscally constrained, but that's where we need some trend data to make that decision probably by September (inaudible) some of the strategies we're deploying to add money back into the program.

As to whether or not anybody's going to go to jail for adopting -- or for not adopting the program by June 30th, you know, your board attorney should be on the line, and she can advise you of that. So I really don't have an answer for you as far as the legal ramifications if you don't adopt a program by June 30th, but what I can tell you is the program we're presenting to you, we believe it's fiscally constrained, and even if it is adopted and money comes in, it can be amended. So I'll leave it at that.

VICE CHAIR STRATTON: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Go ahead, Board Member

23 | Stratton.

VICE CHAIR STRATTON: I appreciate all the comments that have been made, and Kristine, I appreciate your

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     forecast, but having been city/county manager and having
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     financial directors work for me, it is their job to really look
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     at the negative side, if you will, and make sure that everything
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     is there. While I'm an optimist, I've always -- I believe that
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     things will be clearer than what most financial people forecast.
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     I agree with Sam that -- Board Members Elters that if we adopt a
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     plan, it would be the one that was originally given to us. As
     far as the (inaudible) it will be.
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                    I know that the Director's (inaudible), but
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     having been on this board now for five years, I have tried to
     amend that plan previously two or three different times, and
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     it's not quite as easy as it's made to be believed here.
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     would be -- I cannot support the plan that was presented today
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     and will not. I believe that we should (inaudible) money and
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     adopt the plan that was originally given to us.
                                                      Thank you.
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CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: I think on the (inaudible) the issue of delay there; am I correct, Board Member Stratton?

VICE CHAIR STRATTON: Pardon me.

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CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: (Inaudible) on the issue of delay there, you were talking about a previous plan that contains projects that are not out of the plan, correct?

VICE CHAIR STRATTON: That is correct, and I did (inaudible) the delay. I mean, I was hopeful we would have an answer to that question about the delay today, which we don't. So I felt like I had (inaudible) address it and it didn't.

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     Thank you.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Yeah. I am a little
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     disappointed, Director, that the question wasn't even asked on
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     the delay. So I don't know -- you know, I'm not the kind that
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     would vote no just because I'm angry, but (inaudible) board
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     members, but --
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                    MR. ELTERS: Mr. (Inaudible) --
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: -- (inaudible) we will have
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     better data for the June Meeting (inaudible) into the discussion
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     if not the plan by then so we can at least have that information
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     (inaudible) --
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                    MR. ELTERS: Mr. Chairman.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Yes. Go ahead.
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                    MR. ELTERS: This is Board Member Elters.
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                    I would say in fairness to the Director, as far
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     as the question of whether the adoption of the five-year program
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     can be delayed beyond June 30th, I -- what I'm hearing him say
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     and (inaudible) so is that is a legal question we should be
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     perhaps asking the Board attorney to weigh in on, and to that
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     end, is the Board attorney, Michelle, on the call today? I'd
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     like to hear from her.
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                    MR. ROEHRICH: So this is Floyd Roehrich.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Floyd, I'm guessing Michelle
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     is not on the call?
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                    MR. ROEHRICH: This is Floyd. No, Michelle was
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1 on earlier. 2 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: She's showing on the phone, 3 Mr. Chairman. 4 MR. ROEHRICH: She may --5 MS. KUNZMAN: This is Michelle. Can you hear me? MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, Michelle. Yes. 6 7 MS. KUNZMAN: So I think in order to respond to 8 the question about whether or not you have the ability to not 9 vote on the plan by June 30th, that is -- you know, that is a 10 statutory requirement. You know, I could certainly look into 11 from a legal perspective what would happen or what the 12 ramifications to the Board (inaudible) and the consequences 13 (inaudible) requirement (inaudible) research on my end. 14 Just echoing what has been said by the Director, 15 you know, I understand the Chair's point and some of the board 16 members that there's a feeling that, you know, (inaudible) 17 symbolic to make sure that we're actually making a decision 18 based on good numbers, and what I hear the Department say is 19 that it is fiscally constrained, and so, you know, the legal 20 requirement would be to make a decision based on what you have, 21 based on the data before June 30th, and pursuant to statute 22 28-304, that does give the Board the authority to make changes. 23 To Board Member Stratton's point (inaudible) 24 changes, we can certainly talk through that, and that could be

the (inaudible) there is a pretty extensive outline what -- you

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1 know, what can be done in terms of the changes throughout 2 (inaudible).

But in order to answer the question of what would the consequence would be not (inaudible), I would need to do a little bit of research on that. The only other option that I can see is as I mentioned earlier, you would have to have some kind of amendment to the statute.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: If that's the case, we probably would. Nobody's trying to be rebellious here. We're just trying to put a plan out there that has, you know, a little bit better than two weeks of data on a significant generational event going on. I think our heart's in the right part -- right place on that discussion.

John, I'll give you kind of the last word on this, and maybe we can figure out a way to just move on here.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Yeah. I (inaudible)

Chairman, that I don't have a more definitive answer on the statutory question. I think your attorney's giving you good legal advice.

My goal in this was to meet the statutory data with a physically constrained plan with the idea that if revenues improve, projects that were already in the plan can come back, and that's a little different perhaps from amending the plan by adding a new project into it.

So we're trying to save the projects that we got

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     online. The Board is going to have priority choices to bring
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     those back in. So, you know, I'm not trying to say that the
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     amendment process is not something that we're going to have to
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     engage in, but I think we're going to have to work together on
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     this. So I'm trying to keep you statutorily sound by meeting
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     your date with the go forward plan.
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                    So that's all I have, Mr. Chairman.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay. Thank you, Director.
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     Any other Board member comments?
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                    MR. KNIGHT: Yes. Chairman, this is Board Member
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     Knight.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Go ahead, Board Member Knight.
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                    MR. KNIGHT: One question that I would like to
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     address is, okay, if we were to be able to delay start approving
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     the program for one or two months, what's the collateral --
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     what's going to happen with the programs that were supposed to
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     start July 1st, and on our NEPA program that we were supposed to
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     have approved and didn't, and because we delayed for a month or
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     two, what's going to happen to those programs that were supposed
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     to be started during that time frame? Just a question.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Good question. Go ahead,
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     John.
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                    DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Well, Mr. Chairman, I would
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     ask Dallas to step in here, because he and Greg have a much more
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     detailed analysis of what's coming up, and this is a joint
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effort between the money side, Kristine, and Dallas. So I would
want them to address what happens if you don't have something
adopted to the existing program to take its place.

MR. HAMMIT: Mr. Chairman, Director, this is Dallas Hammit.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So Dallas or Kristine.

MS. WARD: So Mr. Chair, Mr. Knight, to the Director's point, Dallas and I have been working very closely together on what the process would be in terms of bringing things back on this program -- in this program, and we get more data (inaudible). The data that I will have at the next board meeting, June meeting, will only be one and a half months of data.

But to Mr. Knight's point, what (inaudible). You know, my conversation with Dallas about (inaudible) is the I-17 project that's in the middle of procurement. It is estimated to (inaudible) that procurement isn't going to happen until December. So we actually have time. That was the whole point in this, how we buy ourself time in order to (inaudible). If we can (inaudible) and let our (inaudible) some of our existing forecasting processes take place, what I would envision is coming back to this board (inaudible) in between of what the actuals have been, but that would also allow us to go through our (inaudible) revenue estimating process that involves economists, outside economists, outside transportation

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     (inaudible), and then we get to bring those -- bring those
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     projects that have been taken out of the (inaudible), they would
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     be prioritized and be available to (inaudible) program
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     (inaudible) three and a half months of data (inaudible) to get
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     additional (inaudible).
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: So if I understand correctly
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     Ms. Ward, then you would envision if we approve this at the end
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     of June, it would probably be in the September time frame where
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     we would have sufficient data to make amendments based on the
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     financial data; is that correct?
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                    MS. WARD: Mr. Chairman, that is correct.
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     is what I had envisioned happening, because what occurred in
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     August, when we have our local risk analysis process, that is
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     where we go through our normal forecasting process. You have
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     (inaudible) we'll have two and a half months of data and
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     (inaudible), and we will then be able to come back to the Board
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     in September (inaudible) conversations with the financial
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     advisors (inaudible) that we can increase our (inaudible)
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     general forecasting bonding, we will (inaudible) back into the
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     program (inaudible) will come back and present these to the
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     Board. So yes, sir, (Inaudible.)
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Board Member Knight, does that
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     answer your question?
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                                      Thank you.
                    MR. KNIGHT: Yes.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Other comments (inaudible)?
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MS. DANIELS: Yes. Chairman Hammond, this is Jenn Daniels.

3 CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Go ahead, Board Member 4 Daniels.

MS. DANIELS: Thank you.

I think my concern probably falls along the same lines as Board Member Searle and Elters, and that is that as we take programs out of this -- or excuse me -- the projects out of this program, we may be causing some unnecessary angst, because we don't know yet, and the fact of the matter is trying to re-add projects, obviously different people in different corners of our state (inaudible) about some of the projects that are being removed, and the fact of the matter is we don't know if that's necessary or unnecessary at this time. (Inaudible) make adjustments as needed along the way, strategically and both understanding the financial position that we're in.

I also hope that we are able to hopefully take advantage of a more favorable living environment as we move forward, and we don't know that yet either. And so we may be able to still accomplish our purposes, but I think we are causing some unnecessary or at least at this point unwarranted angst.

What we're seeing from a local level is our revenues are down about 10 to 13 percent. That's a significant (inaudible), it is, but it's not unmanageable, and so I don't

want to see us cause a lot of unnecessary concerns around the state by removing projects if it's not necessary. And so I don't doubt we need to make some tough decisions in the next several months, but I would prefer to leave the projects in the plan. Thank you.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So Mr. Chairman, to that point, I respect your opinions on leaving projects in, but the problem is that most of the state money that we were forecasting as coming in is not there at this point, and so, you know, you can go ahead and think about approving projects in a non-fiscally constrained plan against the Department's recommendation, but you may be suffering angst down the road if those have to come out and we rebalance for those revenues not being there.

MS. DANIELS: And I appreciate that, but at that point we have hard data and information to be able to point to to say why this is why is we have to make this decision right this moment.

And I'm a proactive individual, so I get what you guys are attempting to do, but I think there are just too many unknowns, and I get that I'm the new one here. So I do see an opportunity for us to create some stability within the state, but also make some hard decisions as time allows.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Well, I can assure you, Board Member, we have been making some very hard decisions as we

come to you, because it is not our pleasure to come to you with a recast plan and taking out projects, but it is our responsibility to come to you with what we believe is a fiscally constrained plan. And when we talk about hard data, I just want to be very careful that, as I watch what's going on out in the world, some of the data is indicating we better be conservative if there is a second wave of economic downturn due to virus. So I just want the Board to be aware of these things as we're moving forward. We take no pleasure in coming to you --

MS. DANIELS: (Inaudible.)

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Well, I agree with the Director. We have more than a responsibility for fiscal constraint. We have an obligation. You know, hence my thought process and Board Member Stratton's to at least try to delay (inaudible) in the plan. And so, you know, again, Board Member Stratton asked that question a month ago, and we probably should have had a better answer for him at this board meeting, but to put out a fiscally -- a plan that's not fiscally constrained, I don't think is a good idea. I'm not even sure we can. I think if we had legal ramifications, it is in the area of being fiscally constrained in any recommendation we make for the use of revenues, so --

MR. THOMPSON: Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: (Inaudible) in a better place now than we were a half an hour ago, but it's been a good

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     discussion. (Inaudible) --
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                    MR. THOMPSON: Chairman.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Other board members?
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     ahead.
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                    MR. THOMPSON:
                                   Chairman. Chairman Hammond.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: (Inaudible.) Yes.
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                    MR. THOMPSON: Yes. I do feel -- I would feel
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     better if there was better data, better information that we
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     could go by, and right now it's just a lot of things that we're
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     anticipating, like come about in the next two, three months, and
     I'm just looking at all these projects. Some of them are going
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     to be painful to the community that's got these projects up to
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     this point, and these are some programs that are being
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     recommended to go away, and those have been very helpful to the
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     smaller communities, and I do feel that we need to have our
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     attorney to look a little bit deeper into this. What is it that
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     we can do without having to break the law, but again, be able to
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     move forward with the information that we have, and then make a
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     good judgment based on the information that's going to be given
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     to us sometime between here and June.
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                    So again, thank you very much, Chairman.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay. Any other board members
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     want to (inaudible)?
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                    MR. ELTERS: Mr. Chairman, one last thought, just
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     at least in my own mind to wrap up and summarizing, and that is
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I think we're all on board with adopting a fiscally constrained program. We understand it's an obligation and it's a must. I think what defines as fiscally constrained and the basis on which if we determine whether we're fiscally constrained or not is at the heart of the debate. We've made an assumption that the impact is going to disappear. We've (inaudible) the program to that degree, and now we're saying we can adopt a fiscally constrained program.

I think what many of the board members, including myself, are suggesting that (inaudible) fiscally constrained program, but it's the basis on which we build that are not as severe as we started with (inaudible). We ought to approach it with more caution.

As Board Member Daniels indicates, we do -- we can (inaudible) always do (inaudible) proactive. It's perhaps (inaudible) or maybe even easier to (inaudible) a sense of let's wait for the (inaudible) and build on it, and (inaudible) then delete -- let me rephrase that -- or postpone projects (inaudible) at the right time (inaudible) challenge or impact to those projects. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: So Board Member, you're suggesting we go ahead and approve it at the end of June and then look for adjustments as we go on? Is that what I'm hearing or not?

MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, this is Floyd.

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                    MR. ELTERS: Chairman Hammond and board members,
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     fellow board members, I'm suggesting if we must adopt the
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     five-year program in -- by June 30th, that it not (inaudible)
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     program that is based on the worst case scenario.
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     (inaudible). So what we have to do together may take some
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     effort. We may have to have two plans in front of us. One is
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     the original, you know, based on the different financial
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     forecasts, and then the -- then the (inaudible) in front of us
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     today, and we have an opportunity to perhaps vote on both of
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     them.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay. Thank you. You'd make
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     a good county manager somewhere.
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                    DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Mr. Chairman --
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: (Inaudible.)
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                    DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Mr. Chairman, Kristine is
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     trying to raise her hand and would like to comment.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: All right. Kristine, go for
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     it.
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                    MS. WARD: Mr. Chairman, I was (inaudible)
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     referencing (inaudible) I was (inaudible) the revised tentative
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     plan, but adding to that plan (inaudible) illustrative project,
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     and illustrative is probably a poor choice of words (inaudible)
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     identified the prioritized projects that has (inaudible)
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     available (inaudible) projects would be added back into the
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     program (inaudible) to the (inaudible) associated to those
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projects (inaudible) the constrained program in that the funding (inaudible) you could (inaudible) that were originally taken out. I wanted to provide that as a possibility.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: That might be a good idea. I mean, I recognize even that list might be revised. The language (inaudible) top ten projects that point wise come up as the (inaudible) money becomes available as we could, we have prioritized those projects, it would be nice to know that what the ten projects are, I guess. Is that a problem with you, John or Floyd or any of the Board or Greg? Is that something we could look through?

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So Mr. Chairman, I think that's something we can develop to give you assurances that if revenues come up, that these are the projects that cascade back in.

So, you know, again, I want to caution folks, because they'll come to me and say, Director, we gave you more money. What did you do with it? Well, how much money? When is it coming? What form does it take or restrictions on it? So you know, people say I'm going to give you some money (inaudible). Well, it depends on whether it's ready or not to build and how that money's going to come in.

So I think we can deliver the list with the caveat for what has to happen for that project to come back.

Here's the amount of state money needed. Here's the (inaudible)

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     need to be done, et cetera. So we have talked about that
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     internally to say what would that look like (inaudible) give you
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     assurances if you say (inaudible) the I-17. Here are the steps
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     that have to happen to put it back into the program.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: I think that's fair enough,
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     Director. Any other board members comments?
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                    MR. ROEHRICH: We agree with him? Do we have any
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     issue with that?
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                    MR. KNIGHT: Chairman, this is Board Member
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     Knight.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Go ahead.
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                    MR. KNIGHT: I think at this point we already
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     know we have lost a considerable amount of revenue. It's gone.
     It's not coming back. Even if the economy comes back quickly,
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     the money that we lost is lost. Our best hope is for it to come
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     back to the level that it was prior to COVID. I don't think we
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     can look for it to come back to the point where it's going to --
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     where we're going to get back the revenue that we have already
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     lost during this two, three-month period of time. That money is
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     gone.
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                    So the original program as it was presented to us
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     is not fiscally responsible anymore. Even -- even if the
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     economy does come back quickly, it -- and for us -- and I agree
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     with Chairman Hammond, I don't think we can approve a program
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     that's not fiscally responsible. I think it's (inaudible) to
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try to make sure that we do.

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As long as we have a plan that is (inaudible) and brings programs back, it's my understanding I guess we're not going to run right out and give the two grants back, the BUILD grant or the TIGER grand or the -- and the INFRA grant, amounting to, what, \$150 million. We're not going to run out and give that money back. We've got time before that would have to happen, so -- and I don't know how much time, but I think we've got quite a lot of time on such as the INFRA grant. I think I did hear it was 2022 or something like that before we would have to make that decision, but nevertheless, as long as we're not going to run right out and give back \$150 million in grants, and we have some time on those, we're good there, and I think we're -- that gives us time to work with our Congressional delegation, senators and representatives to make sure that they are aware and can eliminate those matching fund requirements that are -- seem like (inaudible).

That seems to me for the feds to be a no brainer, because it's not going to cost us any money. The grant's been awarded. The grant we would still get. They just have to cut the red tape and the strings, the matching fund strings so that we can use those funds for what they were intended, whether we have all of the matching funds right at that time or not.

Anyway, that's where I stand on it.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: (Inaudible) infrastructure

bill at the federal level at some point. That seems to have some momentum. See whether it goes anywhere.

Any other comments?

Okay. All the discussions of staff, I appreciate your patience. Board members, also. Very good input. Very respectful, and let's try to get through this (inaudible) the best we can. Is anybody else on the conference call this (inaudible) discussion?

Okay. Hearing none, I'll move on to Item 2, kind of along the same subject, communication protocols, and this was an item that came up as a -- a subject for the study session, and (inaudible) Floyd lead off the conversation.

MR. ROEHRICH: So thank you, Mr. Chair.

This has been a topic that's come up for -multiple times. It's come up by different board members, but it
became apparent last board meeting that there was a number of
issues or concerns, and when we discussed putting together this
agenda, Mr. Chair, you did think -- or you did say let's agenda
it. Let's let the board members bring their issues, concerns
and ideas or thoughts on how they want to better improve our
communications between staff, board members, and even board
members themselves. And so we're here to listen, take
recommendations, and then go back and see what we can do as
staff to make sure we're meeting the needs that you, Mr. Chair,
and the other board members have. So I really am opening up now

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     to the board members to share with us the thoughts, concerns and
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     any thoughts on how to improve it.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Who wants to lead us with
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     their first comments on this issue?
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                    MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair, this is Board Member
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     Knight.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Go ahead, Board Member Knight.
                    MR. KNIGHT: And I was one of the ones when I
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     first got on the Board that suggested -- what I would like to
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     see is on the PowerPoints and information that was brought to us
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     during the meeting, it would be so helpful if we could get those
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     electronically at the same time we get the agenda. So when we
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     study the agenda and we look at what's on the agenda and we --
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     then we can go to those PowerPoints and have a -- we can look at
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     them, be informed, have -- if we have questions when they're
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     presented at the board meeting, we'll already have the questions
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     ready. We won't be seeing that PowerPoint for the first time.
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     I would certainly like to have it at the same time
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     electronically. I don't need it to come paper. I mean,
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     electronically, send to us so that we'll have it at the same
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     time that we have the agenda at least.
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                    And I realize when I asked for it a year or two
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     ago, I -- it worked for the first month or two, and I was -- and
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     I got them, and then after that they went away, and I -- the
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only explanation I had, well, the PowerPoints, a lot of those

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were not ready until the day of the meeting or the day before the meeting.

But, you know, the agenda -- you have the agenda ready on the Friday or whatever, beginning of the week when the meeting's on Friday. It seems reasonable to be able to expect to get the PowerPoint presentations in a little more timely manner so that we can look them over prior to the meeting.

And that's all I have, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: I mean, I will concur with that. Even the day before. I would take the time to review them and you could formulate questions, but what's the notice time for the board meeting? Is it a week prior we have to go public with it or what's that time frame?

MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, this is Floyd. The agenda only has to be posted 24 hours before. Previously -
CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay.

MR. ROEHRICH: Previously, we've had board members ask for it early as much as possible so they can review, because there is a lot of background data in there, whether it's the PPAC actions, the construction contracts, previous meeting minutes, the items that are in there. So we've always pushed to send it out the week before, that Friday before.

And yeah, I'll go back and talk with staff about how quickly -- you know, if we can still get the agenda out, how quickly we can have those presentations ready and the

information. You know, some of it is dynamic. There's no doubt about it. You know, we're going through that right now with the financial situation. Want to make decisions on dynamic information that is either so minimal amount of data or it's constantly changing.

So we can work at how quickly we can pull together the staff's information and presentations and get those out as well, whether it could be at the same time as the agenda or definitely before the meetings. So we'll discuss that.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay. Go ahead, Board Member Stratton.

VICE CHAIR STRATTON: First off, I'd like to thank the staff. Over the past few years, I have asked for several reports be generated, specifically on projects for Dallas, and those reports have been most helpful, and I appreciate them. I do think that what Mr. Knight is asking for is reasonable and would be beneficial to us, also.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: One of the things you -- staff has done, Floyd, I haven't seen it recently, was we were invited to enter into the P2P conversations at the engineering level, and I know I did go into a couple of meetings. I didn't comment, but it was very interesting to hear the conversation back and forth as projects were discussed. I don't know if any other board members took the time to enter those and found them helpful. I'd ask --

MR. THOMPSON: Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: (Inaudible.) Yes. Go ahead.

MR. THOMPSON: Chairman, this is Member -- Board Member Thompson. Let me read to you what I have forwarded to staff, the Director, but I did have a conversation with Mr. Roehrich prior to my sending this letter out.

It says that regarding ADOT staff recommendation, the deferred Rio de Flag Bridge project until 2021 discussed at the April 28th telephonic meeting, I'm concerned about the way the information was conveyed to the team project leaders and the City of Flagstaff, MetroPlan and to me. I don't feel there was adequate notification prior to the meeting of ADOT's recommendations to defer the project.

I have discussed this concern with Mr. Roehrich and appreciated his response, but I am confident that you and your team will look to strengthen the process on notifying (inaudible) to alert the board members of these later project changes well in advance of a meeting.

So my -- I guess my concern is to make sure that those people that initiate a project are notified of these changes, and it's kind of late to have a healthy discussion on that when these kinds of changes are given to us during the board meeting. So again, that's my comment on it. So I think there could be an improvement made to how the information is disseminated by the project leaders.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Thank you, Board Member
Thompson.

Any comments from staff on Board Member Thompson's request?

MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, this is Floyd. Yes. You know, as we're developing projects, we're obviously in contact with a lot of stakeholders. And on the Rio de Flag, specifically, I was told by our development folks they had been talking with the City staff that was assigned to that project. How that information gets disseminated within the City when the mayor and the city council said we were surprised by that, you know, I don't know -- we -- I guess we feel how far do we go, and when we're coordinating with our staff members, from our stakeholders who are part of the project, and then how that gets -- is disseminated through their organization.

I don't want to be defensive. We can go back, and I've asked Dallas' team to look at that in the future as we develop these projects, but we do reach out to stakeholders. We have a lot of stakeholders and staff from cities, counties and other jurisdictions involved in the project development process. We have team meetings. We share information. It's just a question of how is that information disseminated to the breadth that maybe people are looking at.

And so obviously we can do better at that, and we're going to continue to look for that. I don't know. Dallas

is here. He may want to comment specifically to that or procedurally what he and his team have been working on, but that is how we responded to Mr. Thompson, and that's how we approached the Rio de Flag.

MR. HAMMIT: Mr. Chairman, this is Dallas. On that specifically, we were responding to an emergency need on Interstate 40. There were trucks parking on the ramps, backing up on the interstate, and we needed to make action as soon as possible. We couldn't just add a program -- a project to the program without removing something so that we stayed fiscally constrained. We looked at the projects that were ready to go and one that worked.

In this case, there were some utility work that needed to be done. We've looked at moving, and that action moved it basically one month. We've moved it from June of 2020 into the next fiscal year, but it was planned as it was stated at that time to be awarded in -- or to advertise in July of 2020. Definitely we moved very fast to meet that need. We can do better in communicating and we will in the future, but that was the purpose of that -- that group of projects, to address an emergency need on Interstate 40.

MR. THOMPSON: Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Go ahead, Board Member.

MR. THOMPSON: Again, I do appreciate -- I do believe that there is some kind of maybe some things that were

composed that you will be doing to improve my concern, and I certainly do appreciate that, and then I certainly do appreciate everything the staff is doing. So again, I think this is a healthy discussion, because we need to (inaudible) need to come back (inaudible) people up here, up north. So again, thank you very much.

7 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair, this is Board Member 8 Knight.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Go ahead, Board Member Knight.

MR. KNIGHT: To Board Member Thompson's issue, I

think what he's really getting at is if I'm representing four

counties or three counties or what -- whatever area that -
whatever district each one of us represents, when you have -
when ADOT has a conversation with the stakeholders, it doesn't

make us look too good if the stakeholders come to us and say,

hey, look, what's going on with this project, you know, and we

don't know anything about it.

So I think we need to be in the loop with the stakeholders so that we're up-to-date with what's going on when you do have a conversation about a project within our district. We're including in the stakeholders so that we get the information and know what's going on so when they come to us, we don't just give them a blank stare. That's just not, for me, acceptable, and I think that goes to Board Member Thompson's concerns as well. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Yeah. I think you bring up a good point. I mean, (inaudible) the definition of what significant means is the question, but -- but I think staff knows when they're dealing with something that might be controversial with a particular city, either putting something in on a positive note, taking something on a negative note, and I don't know how you would kind of notice the board member of the district, but -- and again, what's significant? We don't want to -- but I would suspect it's not -- one or two of those a year for any one district. So maybe there's a better communication process of identifying what a board member might get pinged on, pinged by on one of his constituents, and at least have him say I'm aware of that.

Anything there, Floyd, you think might be possible to do?

MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, this is Floyd.

Yeah. Yes. We have tried in the past when we know something has been controversial to make the board members aware. When we were holding board meetings out at the communities -- remember we used to get those community profile updates prior to each meeting, and usually it would list the issues that are going on in that community. Now, obviously with 140 projects under development at any one time and a -- 90 in construction or whatever it is, keeping board members involved in every communication on the project is obviously -- that's

going to probably be just untenable.

But I do think sitting down with staff, we can look for those areas if we see that it's causing an issue with local government staff, and we know that it looks like it's probably going to be escalated to their leadership, we need to make sure that you board members are aware of that. And so we can go back and talk about how we can identify, as you said, those few issues each year that look like they're going to be controversial with a local government or another agency and look to give board members heads up.

So we might -- we'll see what's about developing an issues board or issues roster that we can have for each of the board districts. We'll look at something like that.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Well, something that kind of formalizes it so we don't do it for a month and then have it go away. Maybe there's just a reminder, I don't know, checklist or something that, you know, allows this kind of discussion not to get lost over time, because I do think the identification of significant issues for a board member in their district is an important component that ought to be (inaudible).

Other comments? Input?

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$ ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, this is Floyd again. Just one more point to that.

I think you'd also have to be a little realistic here in that as we're doing day-to-day business with some of the

local governments or stakeholders, yes, they're probably going to have information that we're dealing with at that time ahead of the board members. So I can't control how they react to it and if they reach out to board members.

I don't think there's any -- to me, I don't think there would be an issue if the board member would say, you know, I have not been fully brought up on that. I will get the information. I'll make sure to get you a response, and then follow up with staff, because there are going to be things going on in real time that maybe are ahead of us that local government might feel is important to them that we didn't -- you know, either been told to us that that's going to be an issue or that they're really upset with that issue. You know, we're just communicating with them, and they take it to a board member.

We need to be responsive when we also are asked those questions. So please remember to contact us when you have those issues, and we will get the response for you so you can respond back to your constituent stakeholders.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: A lot of good points, Floyd.

I do have a responsibility. I hesitate to ask questions

sometimes, because we overkill the response, and I hate to

(inaudible) staff do so much work. So I've always appreciated the response.

And another point you made earlier, it wouldn't be the first time politicians don't read their pile of

(inaudible) on their desk, and staff knows everything that's going on, and the politician claims they didn't know, and then they call a -- you know, call a board member and complain. So that happens, I think, a lot where staff is just (inaudible) via memos and stuff, but the politicians (inaudible) with the amount of materials that they get to read hasn't noticed until somebody calls to complain, and then they blame lack of communication.

So there's a lot of that that goes on, too.

Other board members, this is a good conversation.

I think if you have thoughts, now is the time to weigh in on it.

(Inaudible.)

Okay. Hearing none, we'll close Item 2 and hopefully (inaudible) discussion will go on to Item 3, which is the board meeting schedule. Floyd.

MR. ROEHRICH: So -- and real quick, and if any board member wants to contact me after this meeting to talk about communication issues, things that they maybe thought of outside of this, please let me know. Staff is here to work and develop and take care of the agency's mission, but support the Board in its mission as well, and that's what we want to do.

So on Item 3, talking with the board chair, we are looking at kind of this slowly opening of our society and our government. We've been given guidance from the Governor's office. We're following the Center For Disease Control, CDC guidance.

Somebody's making a lot of noise. Could they please, if you can, mute your phone for now? There's a lot of background noise. Thank you.

So one of the things talking with the board chair is through this summer, we are looking at using Webex events. So that means on the June 19th meeting, that will be a Webex instead of going to Payson. On the July 17th meeting, that will be a Webex instead of going to Chinle. And August 21st was going to be a telephonic meeting, Webex meeting anyway, and that really was to deal with either high priority programming issues or award construction contracts. There was not a plan to meet then.

So we would be looking later this fall as we see the opening of government, we see how any issues with either the continued COVID-19 concerns or we starting to -- with all the measurements we take in health and safety wise, we can start moving into a meeting. We would be looking to hold meeting later this fall, and then working out whatever guidance is at the time for social distancing, managing large groups of people, manage the safety element of us getting back together.

In addition, I wanted to update everybody that I was contacted by the MPO director who was going to be hosting the rural summit in October. That was canceled this year. It is still looking to be in the Casa Grande area, but not until 2021. So in October we would look at whether there's a venue

available or if we would maybe do a remote for that process.

So I guess I wanted to -- and Mr. Chair, I wanted to hear, obviously, input on this or suggestions as well, but as we talk, we basically were intending to go through the summer, use Webex events, the distance and remote meeting until such time as we can start safely going out to other venues.

In addition, the one thing we are able to do here is in our conference room, we think we got the ability to bring board members who want to get together, bring them into ADOT's admin. building in the conference room we're in right now and accommodate the board members and keep the guidance for social distancing, using face covers -- we're using face covers here -- using the recommended guidelines to start bringing groups together, but keeping them to about ten people or so at any one event or at any one activity.

This way the board members could meet and possibly start interacting together over the next few months as we look to go back out and start meeting with the public. The public would still be remote access. There would be no public allowed in our facilities in these meetings, because we don't have the ability to handle crowds that large and keep our social distancing guidelines, but at least for the next three months, June, July and August, there would be Webex remote activities with the option of bringing board members here into ADOT's conference room, where we're at now, and hold them as a Webex

event and meeting our social distance guidelines.

So that's what we talked about. That was what we wanted to share with the board members, and then obviously,

Mr. Chair, any comments you have referencing that as well, and then any guidance that you feel that we need to take as we move forward.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Well, sure. I would want to -- in fact, I planned on doing the meeting today (inaudible). You know, subject to, you know, safety protocols, I want to try meeting. If it has to be in Phoenix, I'll be there, and if the other board members are comfortable and want to travel, it would be nice to get them there. Ultimately, we need to get back into the communities. I know it's a lot of time, but (inaudible) going into these communities and how much they appreciated us being there. So overwhelmingly positive. We need to get back.

I'm really going to miss the visit to Chinle,

Jesse. I really enjoyed visiting up into your neck of the woods

last time, but it isn't going to happen this time.

So yeah. Sooner rather than later. Obviously, safety protocols and board member (inaudible). Webex is fine. We seem to -- I think this meeting went better than the last one, and (inaudible) was the one before that, (inaudible) it's hard to believe we're only a little over 90 days into this. Think about that. May, June, July -- or March, April, May. A lot has happened, and a lot will happen in the next 90 days. So

1 it's frightening, and (inaudible) getting together rather than
2 not, again subject to safety protocol.

Any other board members want to have some comments there? (Inaudible.)

Okay. I guess everybody agrees with that strategy.

MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, this is Floyd again. So that's how we will move forward. We will start planning for those, and we will start planning for board members to be here. And like, for instance, Mr. Thompson, he -- since he's had some issues with his internet connection at -- in his home, he actually traveled to Flagstaff, but he's up at the district office there. We could also look at some type of accommodation as well.

So we will look at the options that we have available to us to make these meetings effective, efficient, get the board members together so they can collaborate and work on their items, but do it in the safe, responsible way based upon the guidance we are given.

So we'll continue to coordinate that. I will work with board members as we address their needs and move forward, and I agree with you as we have a host facilitator that has really done a super job of getting us informed. We have our IT group here at ADOT that is also helping us -- keep us move forward, and as staff, we're continuing to learn all along that

we do.

So collaboratively, all of us working together are finding a better way to social distance and get the work done that we can. So technology's finally helping us.

I resisted iPhone. I resisted a computer access. I resisted all that stuff, because I like leaving the house, because that's where my wife's at. So I like coming to work. But we're all making it work, and I appreciate the Board's patience in working with us.

MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chairman, this is Board Member Knight.

CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Go ahead.

MR. KNIGHT: I would just like to thank staff and Floyd and the rest of the staff, the Director, for all the work they've put in to making this happen. This one -- this Webex wet very, very smoothly, in my opinion. It's the best one so far. Very -- getting very comfortable with this, but I too would like to see us, if we can in June, the June 19th meeting, I would like to be -- I will travel to Phoenix and be there in person and do the social distancing and the mask and all that.

But I still want to thank staff for all their -- all the work that they went into to put this on and to continue to do that and to be available. Whenever I had questions and concerns, I've been able to email Floyd, and he's right on it.

He gets back with me, whatever answer to whatever question I've

25 He gets back with me, whatever answer to whatever question I've

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     asked, and I think thank him for that. It has been very
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     helpful. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: (Inaudible.)
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                    MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Yes. Go ahead. Board Member
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     Thompson, was it? I'm not hearing somebody.
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                    MR. THOMPSON: Can you hear me now?
                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Yes.
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                    MR. THOMPSON: Okay. Again, I just certainly
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     would like to say thank you to the administration, the staff for
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     everything they're doing. Certainly it is a little difficult
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     being way out there, as I call it, in the remote area. Even my
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     teleconference or my Zoom meetings aren't too good. So I have
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     to come up (inaudible) community in order to be part of this
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     meeting. So maybe (inaudible), but anything that Floyd, the
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     staff can do that make (inaudible) a little bit better. I don't
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     know that would be. I have no recommendation.
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                    Again (inaudible) in this type of situation as
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     far as technology is concerned. So I certainly do appreciate
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     he's wanting to do what he can to make sure that communication
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     happens between the (inaudible). So thank you very much.
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                    CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Thank you, Board Member
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     Thompson.
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                    All right. Any other comments? If not, I'll
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entertain a motion for adjournment.

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1	MR. THOMPSON: I would so move.
2	MR. ELTERS: Second.
3	CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: Okay. A motion by Board
4	Member Thompson, second by Board Member Elters.
5	All in favor?
6	BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
7	CHAIRMAN HAMMOND: All right. Thank you,
8	everyone. Thank you, staff. Thank you, John, Floyd, Kristine.
9	(Meeting adjourned.)
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1	STATE OF ARIZONA)
2) ss. COUNTY OF MARICOPA)
3	
4	BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were reported by
5	me, TERESA A. WATSON, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified
6	Reporter, Certificate No. 50876, State of Arizona, from an
7	electronic recording and were reduced to written form under my
8	direction; that the foregoing 62 pages constitute a true and
9	accurate transcript of said electronic recording, all done to
10	the best of my skill and ability.
11	I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of the
12	parties hereto, nor am I in any way interested in the outcome
13	hereof.
14	DATED at Phoenix, Arizona, this 7th day of July 2020.
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16	
17	Teresa A. Watson
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19	Certified Reporter Certificate No. 50876
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