# MINUTES TE TRANSPORTATION ROARD MEET

## STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING

9:00 a.m., Friday, July 11, 2014 Cottonwood Recreation Center Cottonwood/Mingus/Verde Rooms 150 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street

Cottonwood, AZ 85326

### **Roll call by Board Secretary Mary Beckley**

In attendance: Steve Christy, Kelly Anderson, Deanna Beaver, William Cuthbertson and Jack Sellers.

Absent: Joe La Rue

#### Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Deanna Beaver.

#### **Opening Remarks**

Chairman Christy welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked the Blazin' M Ranch for a wonderful dinner and show with many talented musicians. He thanked the hosts of the event, Mayor and City of Cottonwood for their hospitality.

Floyd Roehrich indicated that Mr. Hank Rogers has rendered his resignation from the Board. Mr. Rogers relayed his sincere thanks and appreciation to all Board members, Director Halikowski and ADOT staff for working with him to address transportation issues. Chairman Christy added the Board appreciates the leadership and service that Mr. Rogers has given to District 5, the State Transportation Board, the Department of Transportation and the State.

#### **Call to the Audience**

The following member of the public addressed the Board:

- 1. Diane Joens, Cottonwood Mayor, re: Welcome and appreciation for Board. ADOT has improved the quality of life with completed projects in the area which help with the quality of life for the residents of Cottonwood.
- 2. Casey Rooney, City of Cottonwood Economic Development Manager, re: Very appreciate of Board's continued support of SR 260 and very important from an economic development standpoint. New branding process/tagline is Cottonwood Arizona, the Heart of Arizona Wine Country.
- 3. Chris Kuknyo, Councilman of City of Prescott and CYMPO Chair, and Mary Mallory, Prescott Valley Councilwoman and CYMPO Vice Chair, re: appreciation for the putting the second part of the SR 89 program back into five-year plan, which will help economic development in the area; cities worked together to get SR 89 in the five year plan; unity is a better way to move forward to build a great state.
- 4. Christian Price, Mayor, City of Maricopa, re: thanked Board and ADOT staff for taking the time and listening to needs of the City and for adding the SR 347 overpass in the five year plan.
- 5. Andy Groseta, Groseta Ranch, re: thank you for efforts for the paving projects in north central Arizona, esp. the added lane going up to Copper Canyon; passing lane between 260 and General Crook Trail; pleased that you will be finishing both ends of the highway and supporting the needs of rural AZ.

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1	(Beginning of excerpt.)
2	CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Moving into our agenda,
3	we'll begin with Item Number 1 from the Prescott District
4	Engineer, who will give his report, Alvin Stump.
5	Engineer Stump.
6	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: While we're waiting,
7	Alvin, I just want to say you look very nice today. Instead
8	of the orange shirt, you actually have a tie on, so
9	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And it's not a clip-on
10	tie, either.
11	(Unintelligible conversation)
12	MR. STUMP: Good morning. Thank you,
13	Mr. Chairman, Board.
14	Go ahead and go to the next slide. Go right
15	into it.
16	As far as under construction right now, we have
17	the two projects. The Copper Canyon climbing lane is
18	essentially done. We just got to do the final striking on
19	it. (Inaudible) have it done. And then also between the
20	(inaudible) interchange to the 169 interchange, we got
21	(inaudible) underway right at the moment.
22	And then in development for fiscal year '15, we
23	have the following: We've got the 260 Industrial Drive
24	roundabout underway as well as another pavement preservation
2.5	from 169 to the Middle Verde interchange, and then we have two

1 sidewalk projects, Town of Camp Verde. All of these projects 2 should advertise sometime around January, give or take. 3 And then, of course, then fiscal year '16, we 4 have our Thousand Trails (inaudible) 17 project coming out. 5 Go ahead to the next slide. 6 This is just a picture of the climbing lane. This is very nice, especially with the number of trucks that overheat coming up the hill there. So very glad to have that about done. Next slide. What you see there is design for the Industrial Drive roundabout. This is a joint project between ADOT and Camp Verde. We've had operational issues here since that section of road was widened just -- the issue is freeway traffic coming in and out to gas up and get something to eat. So (inaudible) that construction of the roundabout here will alleviate those issues. Next slide. And it's hard to tell, but the high line towards the middle of the picture, that is a sidewalk project on 260. It's between Pleasant Parkway and Main Street, and then the other one up at the top is on Penny Flat Road (phonetic) between the same two streets (inaudible) Parkway and Main Street. So those are a couple of good sidewalk

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 projects that will be coming up.

Next slide.

Then as far as an update of where we're at on the 260 project.

Go ahead and go to the next slide.

We're at 30 percent design right now, and we have advertised for a designer to do the final design work.

We'll have them selected in September, and then in August we're going to be advertising for a CMAR contractor, and then we'll have them on board a little bit later, but by the end of the year, we'll have our whole team together, and I expect we'll be under construction early 2016. It is possible we could start a little bit earlier than that, but it's too early to tell at this point whether things will fall in place for that to happen, but that's kind of what I expect there.

Next slide.

Over on 89, with this project in the program, we're going to proceed onward to finishing our design. The City and the County are underway with the design of their realignment project, and they're hoping to have their project complete by the time ours starts, so -- and that's going to make their life easier, because then we can detour some traffic as needed onto their route during construction. So that will be a little less impact to the public.

And lastly, the next slide, on 93 we have our safety project, which will widen approximately five miles of

1	93 South into the 71 interchange. That's set to advertise in
2	August, and then also sometime around that standpoint, the
3	Wickenburg Ranch development is going to start construction of
4	the roundabout at the main entrance on 93, which if you're not
5	familiar with the area, it's about a mile south of the 89
6	interchange junction.
7	So that is that's all I have. I'll take any
8	questions.
9	CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Board Member Beaver, this is
0	your district that you represent. Do you have any questions
1	of District Engineer Stump?
.2	MS. BEAVER: No, but you look very nice all
3	ready for the next election or something.
4	MR. STUMP: I've got to wear a tie once in
5	awhile.
6	CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Any of the board members
7	have a question of the district engineer?
8	Hearing none, thank you very much. Appreciate
9	your presentation.
0	We'll move on to the director's report from our
1	ADOT director, Mr. Halikowski.
2	DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
3	As you noted, several speakers have come up and
4	focused on the importance of the infrastructure of the
5	transportation system and its effect it's having on the

economy here. So I'd like to update the Board on where the Transportation and Trade Corridor Alliance Advisory Group is. At your places, you all have a report that was recently released by the TTCA at the Arizona Mexico Commission meeting in — here in the valley, and the report really focuses on the idea of in Arizona we need to make it here and sell it there, thereby generating cash that we bring into the state for goods and services, and bring that wealth back to our economy to create new jobs.

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On page 7 and 8 of the report, you'll see
Arizona's advantage, as we've talked about with the Board
before that we said in a location between some pretty
significant markets, to the west of us, the San Diego, L.A.
basin, and to the east of us, the Dallas, Houston, Fort Worth
area. To the south we have Mexico, our number one trading
partner, and to the north of us, we have Canada, our number
two trading partner.

So if you turn to page 21, you'll see what we have been talking about with a number of you. It's our key commerce corridors initiative. And these are the trade routes that we believe will connect us to these markets nearby and through the ports in L.A. and San Diego, to the rest of the world. So the routes are important to us, because they're going to require future investment, and as you're aware, we just simply don't have those funds right now.

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264,2230 But the TTCA roadmap does suggest a number of strategies to move Arizona forward to generate more trade and future generation of wealth. So we are out there working the key conference corridors issue. This report will not wind up on the shelf. The TTCA is going to continue its work to focus on trade and transportation, and along those lines, I have a trip scheduled to Mexico City August the 5th and 6th where we'll be meeting with a number of officials who approached us at the recent Arizona Mexico Commission about making improvements on the Mexican side of our ports of entry at Douglas, Nogales and San Luis. So the work of the TTCA's going to continue, and ADOT staff will be working with a number of business leaders out there, as we have been, to talk about the investment and the needs of transportation to move our economy forward.

The other thing I just want to touch on very briefly is the federal transportation funding issue, and Kristie will be talking more about FY '14 and FY '15, but briefly, just to note, seems to be two proposals moving through Congress right now, one in the House and one in the Senate. The one in the House will basically give us a Band-Aid or a patch on the Federal Highway Trust Fund until July of 2015. The one in the Senate that Senator Boxer is proposing could give us a patch to December of this year. And the idea is that somehow that report's (inaudible) on Congress

1.5

to take some real action on the Highway Trust Fund and fix it for longer term.

Both of those bills have been through markup at this point, which means they are moving forward, but obviously the houses will have to go to Conference Committee and iron out their differences, which seem to be how those funds, that \$10 billion, is going to be generated for deposit into the Highway Trust Fund. So we're watching the action closely, but it seems, and I don't want to get too crystal ball here, but it seems that Congress is moving forward to at least give us some sort of Band-Aid to get us through at least the end of this year, if not into next fiscal year.

A couple other items I just want to update the Board on is we had a freight roundtable, US Department of Transportation and the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Congress — Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce hosted on brief policy roundtable discussion, and Greg Nadeau, who's the acting administrator for FHWA, was here in town. And I facilitated this discussion with stakeholders from Union Pacific, Arizona Truck (inaudible) Association, the City of Phoenix, City of Tucson, (inaudible) and others, and we had a very good discussion about insights and experiences in what's happening nationally to begin moving freight more through our region and how we connect to the global markets.

State Route 189, as you know, has been a topic

in front of this board on numerous times. Our director's office staff has met with leaders in Nogales (inaudible) PAG and (inaudible) County to discuss financing State Route 189. As you know, the idea was what we call an HN option or a Highway Project Advancement Note. And that's a mechanism in state law that would allow you to use local funds, much like the City of Mesa has done, to advance state transportation projects.

The City really came back and said that this option is not going to work for them because it's going to overburden their budget for obligation and risk. The option approaching the Resource Allocation Advisory Council, the RAAC, to fund this project prior to the distribution of the discretionary funds under Casa Grande (inaudible), they didn't really get much farther with that, but (inaudible) and the City of Nogales is going to pursue this option at the next COG and NPO meeting.

So essentially what they're doing is saying, let's take the funds for 189 off of the top before we go through the Resource Allocation or the RAAC distribution. Not sure where that one's going to go but (inaudible).

And the last thing, Mr. Chairman, is the League of Cities and Town Conference, ADOT's going to be presenting at the League conference. We're going to be talking to them about key commerce corridors and about the TTCA report, and

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1 we're going to share the Agency's process for planning and 2 programming projects in the five-year program to educate folks 3 and get better understanding. 4 So those are some of the immediate things, 5 Mr. Chairman. Thank you. 6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Thank you, Director Halikowski. 8 We'll move on to the consent agenda. Are there any items on the consent agenda that any board member would 10 like to pull out for discussion? 11 Hearing no requests of that nature, the Chair 12 would approve a motion to approve the consent agenda items as 13 presented. 14 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: So moved. 15 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: There's a motion by Vice 16 Chair Anderson. 17 MS. BEAVER: Second. 18 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: And a second by Board Member 19 Beaver. Any discussion? 20 All those in favor of the motion as presented 21 signify by saying aye. Opposed? Hearing no opposition, the 22 motion carries. 23 We'll move on to the legislative report from 24 our deputy director for policy, Mr. Floyd Roehrich. 25 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, Board Members, I was

going to do a quick update on -- at the federal funding level that the director addressed in his report, so there's nothing else that Mr. Bestie (phonetic) or I have had prepared other than that. 5 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Any questions of 6 Mr. Roehrich? 7 Hearing none, we'll move on to the financial 8 report from our chief financial officer, Kristine Ward. 9 Good morning, Ms. Ward. 10 MS. WARD: Good morning. 11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She seems happy today. 12 That's a good sign, Mr. Chairman. 13 MS. WARD: I'm happy to be back. I've been 14 gone for a couple of months from you guys. 15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Engineer Stump in a suit 16 and you're happy, so... 17 MS. WARD: Well, good morning. And you can --18 don't have to worry about taking any more insomnia medication. 19 Your financial report is back. 20 Lynn, hit it. Let's start with her, Lynn. 21 All right. So we got the closeout perk for the year, and I am happy to report for the first time since I have 23 been with ADOT, we actually had positive growth (inaudible) to a whopping 2.6 percent. We collected a little over 1.2 billion dollars, and we were about -- I don't know -- about 17

million above forecast, which just being above forecast is a happy thing.

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Gas tax continues to be rather weak, very weak growth. Diesel was absolutely stagnant. Went actually negative .5 percent growth, and then -- but BLT continues to be our bright light, our strong spot, with 6.7 percent growth over last year and 3.8 percent above forecast.

New car growth really is what's important in there, as well as growth in the renewals. We bought about 306,000 new cars last year in Arizona. The new -- the thing that kind of hampered some of our glee at MMS was the fact that our new cars to Arizona, those people moving to Arizona, we saw negative growth in that area, so that -- that's a little concerning.

Most are seeing as we move on (inaudible) we're seeing about -- we've been seeing really good growth in contracting until these last few months. And so the permits being issued have really diminished over the last year, the last few months we were seeing at the beginning of the year like 19 percent growth in permits being issued, and now these last few months we've seen a decline. Overall, we have not closed out and gotten final numbers for Roarke (phonetic), but we are ahead of forecast as you can see, with strong growth and retain sales for that eight percent year to date.

Let's move on to the next slide.

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1 The federal aid program, I'm going to touch on at the very end here. 3 As far as our debt financing program, I'm happy 4 to say I don't have bad news, but 20 -- Moody's actually went 5 through and reviewed 26 -- reviewed the states that have 6 GARVEE credits, and 26 of those states they downgraded because 7 of the highway trust fund issues. I am happy to report that 8 Arizona was not downgraded, and in fact, I don't think I 9 mentioned it to you guys a few months ago -- actually, I think 10 about eight months ago, Moody's had done an evaluation, and 11 Arizona was the only state that not only didn't get 12 downgraded, but we got upgraded to a stable outlook. Our 13 outlook got upgraded. So our -- we're very happy about that. 14 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Mr. Chairman. 15 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Director Halikowski. DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: I would just ask, I don't know if everyone understands GARVEE credits. 17 18 MS. WARD: All right. They are debt that we issue against future federal revenues. DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Thank you. MS. WARD: Did that cover it? DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: I think so. 23 MS. WARD: All right. Moving on to the Federal Highway Trust Fund status. Hopefully by the time I end this presentation, Congress will have resolved this issue and we'll

be all done. So if you would please turn to the last -- yeah, Board Member Christie, you've got page -- you guys could turn to the latter half of your packet, you'll see the slides for this case against (inaudible). So we'll go to the status of the trust fund, what the latest we've heard from FHWA and then the issues and impacts.

Next slide.

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All right. This is the latest update from FHWA as of the end of May, so May 30th. I provided this chart to you guys, to the Board before, and it hasn't changed much. FHWA's projections have helped, and they anticipate that the trust fund will go into the negative towards the end of August.

Next slide.

So last week there was a conference call with FHWA, and what they are proposing is that if Congress does not act by August 1st, that they will implement cash management -- cash management (inaudible). You get the gist of it. And what they are going to do is they are going to align reimbursements to states with the revenues deposited into the highway trust fund, and they will distribute those revenues proportionally to each state.

That proportion will be based on the relationship between a state's apportionment, an individual state's apportionment, compared to the national apportionment

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 that a state receives. In Arizona's case, that's 1.8

percent -- 86 percent that Arizona receives of the overall
apportionments for the country.

Reimburse -- so we will get aligned with (inaudible). When (inaudible) revenues are deposited into the fund, they will do a calculation on how much Arizona's portion is, and then we will be able to file for reimbursements up to that cap. If we have -- if we need reimbursements that are over that cap, well, guess what? You wait. If we have -- if our -- the reimbursements we need are under that cap, then we build that -- that remains available to the State to file for additional reimbursements.

Any questions?

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Ms. Ward.

MS. WARD: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Two questions. Since this is -- you've been monitoring this and the Department's been monitoring this whole process for sometime now and has been aware of this pending issue, what kind of directives or notices have you conveyed to ADOT vendors and suppliers as far as a potential issue with payment to them? Are they aware of a new policy that FHWA is going to be conducting, and are they going to be able to adapt to it? And that's my first question.

The second question is from the time that FHWA

gets the income and then ADOT files for at least 8.1 percent of it, what's the time lag there between when you file for it 3 and when you actually receive it? 4 MS. WARD: I'll answer your -- Board Member Christy, I'll answer your second question first, if I may. It 6 takes about three days. CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Oh, that's not (inaudible). 8 MS. WARD: Three to five days. So we get 9 reimbursed very, very quickly. 10 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Okay. 11 MS. WARD: Back to your first question, 12 which --13 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: If I could, Mr. Christy, 14 we have been having a number of discussions with stakeholders 1.5 to let them know and explain to them as soon as we understand 16 what FHWA is doing through the webinars and things they've 17 been holding how this process is going to work. Essentially 18 our message has been to them, I think Kristie will go to this, 19 is that through our own cash management practices for projects 20 we have on the books for '14, we're able to reimburse folks at 21 the same rate we have been, but when federal fiscal 2015 22 starts, that's when we begin to see where we may have to take action if Congress doesn't do something. 2.4 So in addition to briefing you today, what we're planning for over the next week are webinars and

2 (phonetic) and other stakeholders, that they understand how 3 Arizona will be positioned to deal with this issue. 4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: So you're making sure that 5 there's adequate warning. 6 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Absolutely. 7 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: And say, you know, heads up 8 everybody, we've got a --9 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Yes. 10 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: -- loose cannon coming down 11 the highway here. 12 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: And their own national 13 organizations, whether it be UGC or ABTRA (phonetic) or the 14 Highway Users Alliance Group, a lot of the national 15 organizations have been, you know, sending this to their 16 members. 17 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: I'm just concerned about a 18 ripple effect. 19 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Yeah. 2.0 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Negative. 21 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: I understand. CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: You know, no money here, 23 then down there and then down there, and before you know it, 2.4 the whole chain is --DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: And that is a concern,

meetings and this presentation to COGs, NPO, AGC, ACEC

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but I think as you go through your presentation, you'll see
that we've done some planning ahead to make sure that for '14
we are not going to feel that impact.

MS. WARD: Director Halikowski, that's why I'm
grinning, because for such a miserable situation, we are in a

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Sorry.

line.

good position due to that. So you kind of stole my punch

 $$\operatorname{MS.}$  WARD: There's only so much excitement with financial stuff you can get.

 $\mbox{So in terms of -- Lynn, I need the next slide.} \label{eq:linear_slide}$  Thank you.

So in terms of what Arizona actually files for in terms of reimbursements during the August and September time frame, we average about 63 million, requesting about 63 million monthly in federal reimbursements. Between what we forecast will be available to us for reimbursements and what we actually — what we want on average request for reimbursements, we anticipate there to be about an 18.4 million dollar monthly gap. So over the August to September time frame, double that, 36.8.

There are three funds that are impacted by these delayed reimbursements. The State Highway Fund, Regional Area Road Fund and the Local Agency Deposit Fund.

Because Regional Area Road Fund has got a significant ending

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 balance, we ended the year, the last time I checked, which was the end of May time frame, we had about a \$480 million balance. So we're not going to have cash flow problems in Regional Area Road Fund at all. But it does get a little touchier when you get to the State Highway Fund and the LAD Fund.

So you can turn to (inaudible).

So I might have showed you this slide before. The slide depicts the first analysis we did was on the State Highway Fund. This slide depicts the fund, the cash balance history of the fund. It should be in your packets, because that's going to be tough to see there. Oh, and that red line depicts the low balances that we have had in the fund, and anything that falls below zero will kind of speak for itself. And in those cases, what we've had to do is dip into restricted funds.

Note, if you would, that in FY '13 and '14, those average -- the average balance is slowly increasing. So you see in '12 we had a 13.6 average balance, '13, 15.9, '14, 23. That is not an accident. We have intentionally been trying to build an operating cash balance. Going in the negative is not a pleasant, pleasant thing in our role. So we have been slowly building that cash balance, and we ended the fiscal year with a \$50 million cash balance in the State
Highway Fund. Ultimately, to be safe, we need to get that

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fund to about an \$150 million operating cash balance. We've got a little ways to go, but fortunately what we've planned for thus far is putting us in a good position.

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If you would go to the next slide

So this is our first run of looking at what would happen in the State Highway Fund if we started to get delayed reimbursements, according to FHWA's August 1st time frame. And what this depicts is the cash projections for July through September, if Congress does not act, the way the payments begin in August, and for this period we estimate contractor payments of about 38.2 million in August, about 31 million in September, and given the balance, we think the low balance -- lowest balance we will hit will be about \$26 million. Our average balance will be about 28, 29 million.

And when all is said and done at the end of September, we anticipate that they will still owe us \$25 million. With that being said, because of that cash balance that we have maintained, that we have built, the Department believes it has adequate cash reserves to maintain current project schedules and associated payments through September 30th.

Questions?

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Again, when does my chairmanship end?

MS. WARD: If we can go to the next slide, I

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 2 So the LAD Fund, the Local Agency Deposit Fund is a clearing account. So when ADOT administered -administers local projects, the local agency provides us their match moneys up front, and those match moneys are deposited into this fund. As the project is built and expenses are incurred, they are paid for from this fund, and then the feds are billed and the fund is reimbursed.

would appreciate it. Thank you, sir.

We did -- we expect the lowest balance that the fund will hit will be 13.6 million, with an average balance of about 15, and at the end of September, we anticipate that we will still be due \$4.5 million in this fund. Based on these assumptions, we do not anticipate having to delay reimbursements to contractors or local governments. (Inaudible.)

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: So do any board members have any questions of Ms. Ward?

Hearing no requests for questions, thank you, Ms. Ward, and we'll move on to the next agenda item, and that is report on the Multimodal Planning Division from our assistant director, Mr. Scott Omer.

MR. OMER: (Inaudible) Mr. Chairman. So this -- I'm sure you're very disappointed, but my presentation this month is going to be extremely more brief than the last couple of (inaudible) hours at a time, so...

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The (inaudible) report, I do have a little bit on (inaudible.) I didn't prepare a presentation just because we're wrapping the study up. Where we're at is final comments for the (inaudible) study are due next Friday. So I talked to the Nevada DOT last -- I think it was yesterday or Wednesday, and asked them where we're at in the process. They're going to receive final comments next week. After that, they'll be working to incorporate -- review and incorporate the final comments. They'll take it to their transportation board. I think the date is August 6th. It's the last Friday in August -- the first Friday in August. I don't remember the exact date.

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I did ask them if we could get a draft final copy, you know, sooner than that, and they assured me they think they can still get something towards the end of July. So what I propose is bringing back a full report either in the August or September time frame. I'll work with Mr. Roehrich and the chairman to figure out the exact date (inaudible), but I don't want to rush the final report to you -- to the board until we get, you know, we get it back. So...

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Mr. Omer, a quick question. Will you release the results of that report prior to any board meeting to anyone else, or will the Board be the first one you will be presenting the report to, or who will you be presenting the report to first?

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1 MR. OMER: It -- that's a great question, Mr. Chairman. I think it will probably end up being on the 3 Ill.com web page. 4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: So we really don't have it presented to us as fresh right off the press, hot off the 6 press at a board meeting then. 7 MR. OMER: I will try to get it, you know, for the August meeting if it's possible. I just don't know if it will be (inaudible). I'll ask them and see if they actually 10 can hold off opening it. 11 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: The reason I'm asking it is because if it's posted on the internet prior to a board 13 meeting, prior to the Board receiving the presentation, it's 14 -- it might put us as board members in an awkward position when we get a call saying, did you see what this report said on the internet and that type of thing. 16 MR. OMER: Yes, sir. And I think what I could do in the interim is provide an interim -- in the interim, provide the Board a (inaudible), a one-pager or something like (inaudible). (Speaking simultaneously.) CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: An executive summary or something of that nature? Okay. Mr. Roehrich.

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MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Christy, (inaudible), you

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just hit on what I was going to say, is that we can give the Board something prior to that. Unfortunately, my concern is because the report, it sounds like Nevada is going to post it first. I can't control what Nevada does. It's going to be out there. DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Yeah.

MR. ROEHRICH: And once it's out there, it's going to start. So I think, Scott, what you just said is what -- when the report's ready, when Nevada completes it, because it looks like they're going to be presenting it first, we'll get something to the board members, and then we'll get it scheduled for the more comprehensive report, but I'm afraid it's going to be public.

MR. OMER: Yeah. Okay.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. Let me ask, is this Nevada DOT that's in charge

17 of publishing it?

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MR. OMER: Yes, sir.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So I will see Nevada Director Rudy Malfabon next week at WASHTO. Let me discuss this issue with him, see if we can do a joint posting and not have one go ahead of the other and get you an executive

summary before that happens.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: That would be terrific.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Thank you, Director. Thank you.

Go ahead, Mr. Omer.

MR. OMER: To wrap up the other thing, I will say that the public involvement on this study, as you know, has been fantastic. It's -- just some quick things. When we started this study a couple years ago, the very first meeting that was attended in the Phoenix metro area, there were 193 people that attended for the (inaudible) workshop. When we started moving through the (inaudible) analysis, between the three cities of Phoenix -- or Tucson, Kingman and Vegas area, there were 275 people that attended. And when we did the local two analysis, there were over 2,000 people that participated in the virtual public meetings.

The final quarter concept reports, which we're laughing at now, there were 200 people that attended between Tucson, Phoenix and Las Vegas. On our web site, we received literally thousands of comments, and 500 people signed up for e-mail blasts to be (inaudible) something happened, they would get like an e-mail blast. And the media itself reported over 100 stories on the corridor, whether it be in print, television or in social media.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Mr. Omer, regarding that whole issue, so we have a progression of studies, could you please reiterate what this study represents as far as all the,

quote, studies? Is this it as far as the studies are concerned for this project?

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MR. OMER: So Mr. Chair, (inaudible) this was -- the first part of the study was building the business case to identify if -- there really was a business, not only a transportation need, but a business need for the corridor that -- to extend from our southern part, the corridor of Mexico, on to the northern border of Nevada, and then to start identifying the individual alignments where the -- where that made the most sense.

And we've accomplished that, and I think the business case will say that there is a business need for it as well as a transportation benefit. We have done that. At this time, we do not have any further funding available to continue on any additional studies. As you know, we've requested, you know, funding through the TIGER grants and some other opportunities, but at this date, we don't have any funding identified for any future studies.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: So realistically, you'll still have to do some studies on the actual focusing of the actual alignments, where the alignments are going to go actually?

MR. OMER: Yes, sir. That's true.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: And at that point -- well,

before we can get to that point, we have to have funding to do

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1 that, and there is no funding at this point available for 2 that. 3 MR. OMER: Yes, sir. 4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: So this potentially could 5 halt the whole process if the funding doesn't come through? 6 MR. OMER: Yes, sir. That's all I have on I-11 7 if you've got any questions. 8 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Any board members have any 9 questions of Mr. Omer? 10 Hearing no questions, go ahead, Mr. Omer. 11 MR. OMER: Moving on to the (inaudible) item, 12 we have (inaudible) two items this month (inaudible) airport projects Item 7A and 7B. Item 7A was for the 13 Laughlin-Bullhead International Airport, and item 7B was for 14 15 the Ernest Love Field Airport in Prescott. The first project 16 we take notes together (inaudible). 17 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Does the Board have any 18 objection to taking Airport Projects Item 7A and 7B as one 19 motion in toto? 20 Hearing no objections, can we do that, 21 Mr. Omer? Mr. Roehrich? UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, sir. CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: We'll go ahead and have both 24 projects as one. Any further comments on the projects themselves?

1 MR. OMER: I can explain (inaudible) or --2 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Any requests for explanation of the projects other than what we have before us? Mr. Roehrich? 5 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chair, we should have a motion to approve the (inaudible). 6 7 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Okay. Seeing that the -there's a motion that's needed to accept both the projects 7A 9 and 7B in one item, the Chair would entertain a motion to 10 accept and approve them. 11 MS. BEAVER: So moved. 12 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Second. 13 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: There is a motion by Board 14 Member Beaver and vice -- seconded by Vice Chairman Anderson 15 to approve Airport Project 7A and 7B. Any questions regarding 16 the motion? 17 Hearing no questions, all those in favor of the 18 motion as presented signify by saying aye. Aye? Opposed? 19 Hearing no opposition, both Airport Projects Items 7A and B 20 pass. 21 Anything further, Mr. Omer? 22 MR. OMER: No, sir. 23 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Thank you for your presentation. We'll move on to the state engineer's report. We'll hear from our state engineer, Jennifer Toth.

1 MS. TOTH: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board. The state engineer's report, we have 115 projects under construction totaling about \$700 million, and fiscal year To date, we have closed out 160 projects. And I just want to give a big appreciation to the staff, to the resident engineers and to our field reports group who has continued. As you know, we've brought the project finalization process (inaudible) been extremely important over the last two years. It helps us free up tied-up money to reenergize it and put back into other projects. So that concludes the state engineer's report. I'd be happy to take any questions at this time. CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Are there any board members who have questions of the state engineer regarding her report? Hearing no questions, we'll move on to construction contracts, who will also be presenting this is our deputy director of transportation, state engineer, Jennifer Toth. MS. TOTH: In terms of the construction contracts, I do want to say thank you for the seven projects that were on the consent agenda. I just wanted to highlight that one of those projects is the US-89 landslide project, and

we'll be moving forward with that. That does include an incentive in order to complete early. So thank you for that.

 $\label{eq:continuous} I \mbox{ have two items to justify. If you'll move forward, Lynn.}$ 

So Item 9A is a bridge (inaudible) retrofit project, and during review of the bids, the Department did note the following irregularities. Carson was read as the low bidder, and with -- when we were analyzing the bids, we noticed that they failed to show that they made a good faith effort to meet the DVD goal prior to the bid opening. In addition, they used the bid bond format that differs from the one provided by ADOT.

And then thirdly, they submitted proposal documents signed by a person who did not have the proper authority. So any one of those three items are reason to reject the bid, and we do recommend rejecting the bid of Carson and awarding to Technology Construction as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Mr. Sellers, this is in your district. Do you have any questions or comments of the state engineer?

MR. SELLERS: No questions. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Hearing no questions from Mr. Sellers, the Chair would entertain a motion to approve the recommendation as presented by the state engineer.

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MR. SELLERS: So moved.
CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: There's a motion by
Mr. Sellers.
MR. CUTHBERTSON: Second.
CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: A second by Mr Board
Member Cuthbertson to approve the motion as presented by
staff. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying
aye. Aye? Opposed? Hearing no opposition, the motion
carries as presented.
We'll move on to the next system, which is Item
9B. Ms. Toth.
MS. TOTH: So item 9B is with the City of
Somerton. It's a pedestrian flatland landscape project. Upon
bid opening, KAZ Construction was the only bidder on the
project and was the apparent low bidder; however, the project
does exceed the amount of federal and local match fund program
for the project. In addition, the City of Somerton does not
have the extra \$50,000 that it would take to award at this bid
amount. Therefore, we recommend rejection of the bid of KAZ
Construction to allow us to work with the City to rescope the
project.
CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Board Member Beaver, this is
in your district. Do you have any questions or comments
regarding this to the state engineer?

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      you have been presently over this, in contact with the Mayor?
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                    MS. TOTH: Correct.
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                    MS. BEAVER: Okav.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Any other questions?
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                    Hearing none, the Chair would entertain a
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     motion to accept and approve staff's recommendation for Item
     9B.
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                    VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: So moved.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: There's a motion by Vice
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     Chair Anderson to accept the motion.
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                    MR. CUTHBERTSON: Second.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: It's seconded by
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     Mr. Cuthbertson to accept the motion and approve staff's
14
     recommendation for 9 -- Item 9B to reject the bid of KAZ
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     Construction, Incorporated. Any questions? Comments? All
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     those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye. Aye?
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     Opposed? Hearing none, the motion carries as presented.
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                   MS. TOTH: Thank you.
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                   CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Thank you, Ms. Toth.
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                   We'll move on to Agenda Item 10, which is an
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     overview of the Grand Canyon National Park Airport Development
22
     Plan, and we'll hear a presentation from ADOT's deputy
23
     director of operations, Mr. John Nichols.
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                   MR. NICHOLS: Thank you, Chairman Christy, and
     good morning, members of the Board.
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My name is John Nichols, Deputy Director for Business Operations. I'll be briefing you on the Grand Canyon Airport, and I'll be working with the -- my -- Sonya Herrera, who is the director of the Administrative Services Division. The airport falls underneath our level of responsibility. First I'd like to introduce -- first what I'd like to do for you very quickly is just introduce you to the airport and what it is -- what it does out there at the Grand Canyon. Next slide, please. The Grand Canyon Airport is a public commercial airport certified by the FAA on Part 139. What that basically means, it's an airport that's certified to deal with commercial air traffic. It is the fourth busiest commercial airport in the state of Arizona. Next slide, please. We have a runway that's a 9,000-foot runway, capable of handling up to a Boeing 747. As you see right here in the pictures, this is the President's Air Force One, which is a 747. The plane -- the picture all the way to the right is a 757 belonging to the vice president. Both of those aircraft have visited the Grand Canyon Airport. But just as a note, the runway was designed for 737 service. It can take about nine to -- between nine to 10 hits annually of a 747 without destroying the infrastructure.

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Next slide, please.

This shows the number of passenger enplanements that we see on an annual basis at the airport. If you look at 2005, we were at 400,000 people going through the airport. We hit our low in 2009. That was a direct reflection of the economy.

One thing that's very important to note about the Grand Canyon Airport, that it is very much influenced by the world economy. The two areas that get the most passengers come from Europe and the Far East, and depending on the economies of those locations will depend on the type of traffic that we see at the airport.

Also, just as a note, our high point, our high watermark for the number of passengers going to the Grand Canyon Airport is 600,000. So that happened back in the '90s.

Next slide, please.

This shows the number of takeoffs and landings that we have at the Grand Canyon Airport. 2005, we had 116,000. We normally run about 100,000 a year going through the airport on an average based on the last five or six years. Again, you can note the low watermark at 2009 when the economy had bottomed out. We are running somewhere in the neighborhood of 100,000 right now.

Next slide.

This shows an economic picture of the airport.

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 For the last 10 years, we've been losing money. We're at -we are at a point where we were losing about \$400,000 a year.

And we're very happy. We've made a lot of changes in the
airport operation, and we're very happy to note that the FY
2014, we actually made money. We are at about 1.5 million in
revenues, with expenditures of 1.2 million.

Next slide.

This is an economic impact of what the airport has on the region. We, again, connect ourselves to about 1,276 jobs with about 104 million in revenue in the tourist industry as a direct result of airport operations.

Next slide, please.

The -- in 2011 was our introduction to 737 -- our regular 737 service coming into the airport. The regular 737 service comes from Vision Airlines, which kind of flies out of Las Vegas during the busy times of the year. At least one flight a day comes through there, but also, routinely, especially during the summer months and high tourist months, receive 737 service from various, different touring agencies that bring in their own aircraft for tourist flights.

Next slide, please.

The TSA began operations in June of 2011. This has been a challenge as a result of the larger aircraft, and you see the pictures there. In some cases we've had to do TSA activities outdoors because our current terminal/facility is

inadequate for larger aircraft or larger populations. We have had as many as three 737s or MD-80s from Alliance Air come in and land at the airport and unload all their packs. Moving that many packs back into the aircraft requires outdoor activities, because our current terminal facility is inadequate to meet those needs.

Now I'd like to turn the rest of the -- or part of the presentation over regarding the terminal facility to Sonya Herrera.

MS. HERRERA: Next slide, please.

Our main terminal was built in nineteen-ninety
-- or excuse me, 1965, and since that time we have not had any
major renovations or updates. Part of our challenge is that
our infrastructure is aging, and so we need electrical
upgrades, some plumbing upgrades. The airport does not
currently offer any wireless technology, and that's something
that our passengers are really demanding of us these days.

We also are not currently, as John just touched upon, meeting our TSA and FAA requirements with our existing terminal. It limits our ability to support our passenger requirements. We also have very limited tenant capability, and then this impacts our opportunity to generate revenue. We very much so want to be self-sufficient.

Now, I'm a very visual person, so we've included some additional photos, just to kind of paint the

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1	picture of our aging terminal.
2	Next slide, please.
3	This is coming in, approaching the terminal.
4	This is our north end of the terminal.
5	Go ahead to the next slide, please.
6	This is the south end of the terminal. If
7	you'll notice, on the left-hand side there of the building,
8	there are two bays, bay doors that actually roll up for
9	baggage, but the challenge is we cannot get a vehicle inside
10	of there to actually deliver the baggage and drop it off to
11	that existing area.
12	Next slide, please.
13	If you land in the airport, this is basically
14	what you see upon landing, and this is your entrance into the
15	terminal from the ramp.
16	Next slide, please.
17	Now, what you didn't see in that previous
18	picture is the condition of our retaining walls as well as our
19	steps. This is creating some unsafe conditions for our
20	passengers, and we are doing what we can to stabilize that
21	until we can do some improvements in that area.
22	Next slide, please.
23	Our terminal interior is very dated in design.
24	It also really limits our functionality. It does not work for
25	us any longer with the introduction of our 737 traffic on a

more continual basis. We also have an outdated water system. We currently do not have the ability to use greywater at the terminal, and because water is something that is very precious to us, that's something that going forward into the future we want to incorporate that into our terminal. It's also undersized for our passenger volume, as well as our restrooms are undersized.

We have very limited commercial retail space, and then we also do not have a secure holding area.

Currently, whenever passengers are screened on the interior of the building, they have to exit the building and go inside of a fenced area outside of the terminal and wait for their aircraft to depart.

Next slide.

This is a bit hard to see in this picture, but let me just assure you that that is a lobby that's filled with passengers that have just exited the ramp and entered into the terminal. They're awaiting instructions from their tour guide there on the left.

Next slide, please.

 $\label{eq:this_passengers} \mbox{This is a photo of our hallway, again, with} \\ \mbox{passengers.}$ 

One more slide, please.

That's a better view of that. So it's very crowded whenever we have our 737s on the ground.

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Τ	Next slide.
2	And that's just one additional picture there of
3	our lobby.
4	Next slide, please.
5	Now, it's not something I really like to talk
6	about publicly, but so let's talk about our restrooms. There
7	are only four stalls in our restrooms currently, and there are
8	over 100 passengers that travel on a 737. So you can imagine
9	the challenge that that is whenever we have three 737s on the
10	ground at one time. The other challenge with our restrooms
11	here is they are not ADA compliant, and then they're also very
12	outdated.
13	Next slide, please.
14	This is baggage handling for a charter flight.
15	This is a 737 (inaudible) on the ground. Again, we are
16	challenged in that area. A lot of opportunity for improvement
17	there, and hopefully with our new terminal, all these things
18	will be addressed.
19	Next slide.
20	One of the things that we have just recently
21	undertaken in about the last 60 days is a master plan update.
22	Basically, our master plan is the blueprint for what we need
23	at the airport of the future. This is about an 18 to 24-month
24	process.
25	Now, I want to assure the Board, also, that

there is a significant amount of community outreach that's a part of this master planning. In fact, if memory serves me, we are having three to four additional public meetings above and beyond what is typical when an airport does a master plan. These are typically done about every seven years, but this will be ongoing for the next few months.

So an internal building is going to allow us to be in compliance with our TSA regulations and also with the Americans With Disabilities Act. It's also going to allow us to better support our commercial airline operations. It gives us the opportunity to increase our airport revenue, and it's also going to give us the opportunity to be more energy and utility efficient.

MR. NICHOLS: Now, the terminal facility is a major challenge that we have at Grand Canyon Airport, and as Sonya pointed out, it's dated. It's very old, energy inefficient. When we have aircraft land on the ground, it's very crowded.

The other challenge we have at the airport and in that whole entire region is water. In 2011, the FAA instructed us to close our water source. The airport used to get its water from a catchment system that was located in between the taxiway and runway, and it would catch rainwater, snow, and then pump it up into the holding tanks, you see those holding tanks right there, and then later process

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 through a water treatment facility and then support -supporting the airport operations. FAA determined that that
catchment system was a danger to flight operations and
instructed us to close it, and it has now been closed.

Next slide, please.

As a result, we have had to purchase all of our water from the Tusayan Water District. We can only purchase water from them during the spring and the fall. They have basically the capacity of two wells in the town or the City of Tusayan. One well produces about 60 gallons per minute, and one is about 25 gallons per minute. And in their operations of their hotels and during the peak tourist season, 100 percent of that water is being used for the town itself, allowing no water to be able to be used by the airport.

So one of the concerns that we have at the airport is a methodology for assuring that the airport has the water it needs to not only support operations at the airport, but also protect the aircraft, the flying aircraft and the flying public, in the event of an aircraft accident and/or any kind of forest fire activity.

Next slide, please.

Now, there -- this -- the well is a point of contention for a lot of different stakeholders. The -- there is the fear, there is the belief that the airport drilling its own well is going to add an impact on various, different water

sources in and around the Grand Canyon. The point that we would like to make is that we are currently using that water now. It's coming from the city. It's being pumped into our tanks, but the only issue that we have is that we do not have a reliable source that we can depend on in the event of an aircraft or a fire activity that would be at the airport. What we're proposing is to drill a well that is limited in scope and size that will be able to support airport operations in a reliable manner.

Next slide, please.

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The -- so the two major issues that we have at the airport is a new terminal facility that's going to allow us to meet current passenger and air safety needs and a well, water well, that will meet the needs of the airport operations going forward.

Next slide, please.

The Grand Canyon Airport, and I think it's very important as a -- citizens of Arizona to understand that the Grand Canyon Airport is the gateway -- is a gateway to Arizona's crown jewel. As you looked at that very dated 1965 facility, that's what hundreds of thousands of foreign passengers get to see that represents the State of Arizona. We wish that our airport facility would represent all of Arizona and not just a dated 1965 facility. The terminal needs to be replaced, and we require a reliable water source

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to continue airport operations and tourism in northern Arizona. 3 Next slide, please. 4 And that concludes our briefing. Are there any 5 questions? 6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Mr. Nichols, we might as 7 well cut right to the chase with a couple of questions here. 8 Then I'll open it up for comment from the director, too, if 9 he's so inclined. 10 Over the course of several meetings, we've 11 heard some comments from citizens regarding the efficacy of 12 the airport itself. They've been on environmental and 13 economic issues mostly. So how do you respond to those who --14 you already addressed the water issues, I think, pretty --15

airport, they'd be forced to take the highways, and that would allow those businesses to survive. Secondly, they like to point out that the airport has been a money loser for some years, and in light of all of our current economic situations, why is the airport

fairly adequately. How do you respond to those who talk about

the economic impact that the airport has negatively on

businesses that line the highways leading into the Grand

Canyon, siphoning off potential business? If there was no

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losing money, and that kind of has a further fantail on it that why would ADOT be in the airport business? Would it not

be more fruitious to maybe privatize it or put it to the jurisdiction there that's closest or something along those natures.

Those are questions that I've been hearing, and I can't adequately answer them. I see the airport value, but I think we all need to be aware of the -- those who are against it and how we can respond to them.

MR. NICHOLS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try to --

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Before you start,
Mr. Nichols, Mr. Christy, those are excellent questions, and
just going back in history, which predates Mr. Nichols'
tenure, I've been involved with this airport for probably over
20 years. And at one point the Legislature did enact laws to
allow the Department to lease the airport to a private entity
to run, because as you said, it never really has generated
enough money based on the way that the contracts and other
issues were led in the past to break even.

And so the question from a legislative standpoint for years was why is ADOT in the airport business? Wouldn't it be better to have a private entity to run it?

And so after those laws were enacted in the 1990s, as I recall, a private entity did take over for awhile to run the airport. They, themselves, gave up the lease, because under the way the contracts and other issues were

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 structured, they could not turn a profit and wound up giving it back to the State.

So during my time, I have asked the very same question: Why are we in the airport business? And from a lessee's perspective, until you can bring the facility up to par, both in its firefighting capabilities, which we've done, but also in its terminal capabilities to generate the profit and work the contracts with the users of the airport, they don't have any interest, why would I lease a losing proposition?

So we're kind of in this chicken and egg or Hobson's choice situation that unless we bring the facilities up to standard, you don't have a private entity who's interested in it.

We've thought about giving the airport back or turning it over to someone, but there are FAA easement or lease restrictions that we cannot just simply walk away from this without doing something to ensure it either continues at an -- as an airport or closes down.

And closing it down, as we looked into it when the FAA was running into problems with providing us money several years ago, is what I will call politely another bureaucratic nightmare. I didn't realize how difficult it was to close an airport that the pilots have had for years and expect to be there in case of an emergency. So just let me

start there, and then I'll let Mr. Nichols talk about the economic issues. But certainly we share your thoughts that we don't necessarily want to be in the airport business. It's just that it's not as easy to walk out of it as we would like to be.

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CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Thank you. Before -MR. NICHOLS: (Inaudible.)

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Mr. Nichols, before you proceed, because of the water issues, I kind of forgot some other environmental issues. You hear a lot of talk about the additional noise factors of the airport, as well as the air --air quality and air pollution factors. So if you could throw that into the mix of your responses to that, too.

MR. NICHOLS: Chairman Christy, I will try to  $\mbox{\footnotesize --}$  you gave me about six questions there, and if I miss one, please re-address them.

On the air quality issue -- I'd like to hit that because of the last thing you said -- one of the things that we are seeing in the aircraft operations at the airport, because they are starting to go with the -- some -- like Vision Air, for instance, which is one of our more frequent carriers, is going to larger aircraft. It's actually less pollution, because they were using three aircraft to do what they're doing with one right now. So there -- that does impact.

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 As far as noise pollution, the airport in its normal operations doesn't even approach the park. That was a big concern to park services, some of your environmental community, that if you have 737 service, is it going to impact the park? The answer is no, because we turn off -- we're nautical miles off center of the airport as we either go east or west and head toward the next destination, which is at least one nautical mile before the edge of the park -- park. And it's another five miles from the edge of the park to the edge of the canyon. So they don't even see the aircraft.

The only time people really notice aircraft operations is when they're in the Town of Tusayan itself, because they are in the flight path, and you will see the aircraft going over the top of the town.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: And to that, let me just interrupt you. Aren't there helicopter flight companies that are permeating all through that area?

MR. NICHOLS: Yes, there are, sir. There — they have a couple of routes. There's only two authorized routes that the Park Service gives.

I'm going to say 98 percent, 99 percent of all the visitors of the park will never see a helicopter. You have to go to the far edges of the park to see the helicopter and get in that pathway. If you're in the center of the park, which you typically go to the visitor center, they're at least

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10 nautical miles, five nautical miles away from that area. So you don't see the helicopters.

Now, if you go down into the canyon and hike 12 miles from it, you might see a helicopter go over the top, but it's on the far edges, and they've done that on purpose, because the Park Service wanted to instill quiet in the park.

The helicopters that are flying out of the Grand Canyon Airport now, almost 60 percent of them using — are using quiet technology. So you're not seeing those noisy (indicating) helicopters like you used to see. There are incentives for the tourist industry to transition from the noisier helicopters to the more quiet technology. And right now, I want to say over half the helicopters that are leaving the Grand Canyon right now are the Eurocopter, which is a quiet technology.

I would like to address the economic issues.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Mr. Nichols, hang on a second. I just want to point out, we're talking about two issues here. One is 737 service.

MR. NICHOLS: Right.

 $\label{eq:director} {\tt DIRECTOR\ HALIKOWSKI:} \quad {\tt The\ other\ is\ the\ tour}$  industry, which is the helicopters and airplanes.

So the 737 service, I think you've addressed in the fact that it's on the south edge, and it's not going to approach the park, but the tourism industry of the

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 helicopters, Mr. Chairman, the noise regulations are really regulated by the federal government, correct? Those flyovers are regulated by Congress and not us.

So we have to ensure, you know, that the helicopter industry and the aircraft industry that's flying over the canyon out of our airport is doing so appropriately, but the noise regulations, they're not within our control, nor are the routes, as I understand it.

MR. NICHOLS: No, the routes are all controlled by the federal government, the FAA, and the number of flights that are allowed over the canyon is also controlled by the FAA.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: And one more point,
Mr. Chairman. I believe one of the tribes is considering
tourist service on the north end. Is that (inaudible)?

MR. NICHOLS: Actually, there is a tribe that is on the west side, what they call Grand Canyon West, and they are flying tourists — tour flights out of that. Matter of fact, they've exceeded the number of flights that are currently going out of Grand Canyon National Park, the airport, by the tune of almost five to 6,000 flights. They don't have the restrictions that we have. We are very controlled because of the operations, but that airport that's on tribal property, they can actually brick the edge of the canyon. They actually land down in the canyon (inaudible).

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                    DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So my point is,
      Mr. Chairman, regardless of whether the new terminal is built,
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      those flights are going to continue as far as the tourist
      flights, correct, Mr. Nichols?
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                    MR. NICHOLS: Let me address the economic
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     impact.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: The director did have a
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      question.
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                    MR. NICHOLS: I'm sorrv.
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                    DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So the question is
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     regardless of the new terminal being built, the flights over
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     the canyon, that tourism industry is going to continue?
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                    MR. NICHOLS: That's correct.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: I only --
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                    MR. NICHOLS: That will not stop, and that will
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     not slow down.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: I only bring up the
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     helicopter issue for two superficial reasons. One, there's
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     already a noise factor with them.
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                    DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Two.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: And secondly, however,
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     though, those air -- helicopter flights do originate out of
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     the airport.
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                   DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: That's true.
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                   CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: So that was my only
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connection to that, but please go ahead on the economic 2 issues. 3 MR. NICHOLS: The economic issues, now one of the -- where we're getting a lot of criticism is, was mainly 5 from two sources, the City of Flagstaff and the business 6 community in the City of Flagstaff and the City of 7 (inaudible). 8 The City of Flagstaff is very concerned that if we develop the airport that people will bypass Pullman Airport 10 and go directly -- fly directly into the Grand Canyon and have 11 an economic impact as a result of that. 12 There's also the belief that people, if they 13 can fly directly into the Grand Canyon Airport, that they 14 won't drive, and by not driving, they won't go through the City of Flagstaff. The -- I think what's very important, and I've talked to both the City and talked to the business community and tried to explain that the airport is never going to be developed to a point where you're going to be able to see the significant commercial air traffic into that airport for several reasons. One of the biggest reasons is there's no way -- there's no ability of the airport to support a normal airline operation. There's no place for the air crews to spend the night. There's no place for the ground crews to live.

The other big issue that we have is fuel.

There's no place to fuel a heavy aircraft at the airport. So when you see those heavy aircraft that are at the Grand

Canyon, it's important to know they come in heavy, which means for those folks that don't understand the aeronautic term, they're coming in with their own fuel, and that's not a very economic -- it's not a good economic prospect for an airline operation. The more fuel you have to carry, the more expensive it is to fly the aircraft, because you're carrying

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gas and not people.

So what we see is a very limited amount of commercial aircraft. If we get -- now, Vision Airlines is flying tour flights from Las Vegas. If we get a single other tour industry type of commercial air into the airport, we will consider it a major victory. But that has been a major, major problem. Even if you talk to the airlines, they'll tell you, how am I going to fuel up? Where am I going to keep my ground crews? What are we going to do? And we can't answer those questions because of restriction.

Just like the nature of where the airport sits, located in the middle of an area that cannot be developed, it's going to restrict what that airport becomes, and it will always become, and I believe, it will always be a tour industry, air tour industry airport that has the ability to bring packs in for -- on a limited basis from Las Vegas for

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 the sole purpose of going to look over the edge of the canyon. It's not going to be the impact that some people fear.

As I pointed out in the past, in the 1990s, we were up to 600,000 people moving through there. However, most, if not all of them, from air traffic came from Las Vegas, and these are our tourists that are -- we are the sideline. We are not the destination.

#### DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So --

MR. NICHOLS: The Grand Canyon, unfortunately, if most people have visited the Grand Canyon, it's not a destination. It's merely a bucket list item people go there for. The average time people spend at the Grand Canyon is two hours.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: To that point,

Mr. Chairman, I think it's important to note we're talking -I think Flagstaff's within roughly a 50-mile radius of the
canyon.

As Mr. Nichols points out, the canyon is a visiting spot, but it's not necessarily the destination point, and certainly the city and -- the City of Flagstaff and Tusayan would partner together, because within that 50-mile radius, if you're looking to travel and see other things, Flagstaff's pretty close, and so coming into the canyon doesn't necessarily mean you're going to spend your entire

time in Tusayan. There are other destinations that are attractive in northern Arizona that people may want to visit.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: And to that point, regarding the cost of the upgrades that we need to make, where are we going to get that money?

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Mr. Nichols?

MR. NICHOLS: Most -- where we're going to be getting the money is from the FAA. Now, we are authorized -- for every passenger that comes into that airport, they are assessed a fee, a tax.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Landing fee?

MR. NICHOLS: A landing fee or there's passenger taxes that are assessed to them. We get a part of that, just like we get a part of the federal road tax when people buy gasoline in Arizona. We get a piece of it, and that belongs to the airport, and it's for airport's use only. That's one of the rules the FAA has. That's our plan, is to use that funding for the well site and use that funding to build a new terminal facility. And so there's not going to be any money that's being stripped from anybody to support that operation. It's due to the airport. It's for airport operations. If we, the State of Arizona, don't use that money, it goes to other states, which is a -- not a good thing, to allow tax dollars to flow out of Arizona into some other state.

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 I would like to address the issues regarding the economic viability of the airport. The airport has been in the past -- has not met its own -- has not paid its own way. This year we have. Now, you may -- I would ask the question, why? How did this happen? Two several -- there's two major issues that have happened over the last couple of years. When I took over the airport in '10, '09 and '10, that we hadn't had a rate increase in over -- I want to say it was almost 12, 13 years, and we did get passed a modest rate increase and user fees of those airlines and companies using the airport. That's one thing.

We've also cut our operating costs. We've looked wherever we can to find savings in how we operate. There's another area that we've reduced our operating cost.

Also, we've been working with our customers and tenants. And we were letting revenue get by, and we were not chasing it down. We're chasing it down. And that's why over the last year, FY '13, we've been chasing every nickel that's owed to us, based on bus companies coming in, taxicab coming in, aircraft services. People would fly in — commercial air companies would fly into the airport, and we — now we're getting the fees they owe us. And that's one of the reasons, if you look at, we went from \$800,000 in revenue to 1.5 in FY '14.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: There were some other

1 issues I want to point out, Mr. Chairman. I believe in '88, a 2 30-year contract was signed with the airport users, setting 3 fees --4 MR. NICHOLS: It was actually in the '70s. 5 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: In the '70s. A contract 6 was signed setting fees flat for 30 years. I think that was up in 2008. 8 MR. NICHOLS: The one old contract is up in 9 actually 2017. 10 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Okay. Because these contracts were let for these 30-year periods before we came on 11 12 board, and one of the issues we faced is that costs are going 1.3 up, but whomever signed those contracts for the Department 14 kept the fees flat for 30 years. That's not a good way to do 1.5 business. 16 And so Mr. Nichols has negotiated with the industry users of the airport and said, look, we're both in 17 18 this together. If you want upgrades and improvements, we're 19 going to have to adjust these contracts, even though they're not up yet. We've successfully done that in some cases, and that's brought more revenue in. But our strict instructions, at least from me, is no more 30-year contracts. That's not a good way to do business. 24 MR. NICHOLS: Did I answer all the questions?

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you did a very good job of doing so. 1 2 MR. NICHOLS: Okay. Thank you. Is there any 3 other questions? 4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Any other questions of the 5 board members? 6 MS. BEAVER: Yes. 7 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Board Member Beaver. 8 MS. BEAVER: Yes. I have just a couple. My concern is based on the visual that you were talking, I was 10 like -- that airport does not represent a good image of our 11 state, I would say, based on those pictures. I mean, it looks 12 really run down. 13 MR. NICHOLS: It is. 14 MS. BEAVER: And I noticed lots of steps. In 15 addition to the bathrooms not being ADA compliant, is the rest 16 of the airport compliant? 17 MR. NICHOLS: The rest of -- the rest of the 18 airport's flying operations is compliant. Once we moved that 19 water system, we became compliant. 20 I would like to address that issue, because when we went -- when I first went to the airport, one of the things that I noticed is literally hundreds of thousands of 22 foreign visitors going through that terminal facility, getting 23 2.4 on buses, going to look over the edge of the Grand Canyon.

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CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: I think you did, and I think

And the thing that concerned me the most is, are they getting

introduced to Arizona? Arizona's a wonderful state. There's a lot to see here.

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A few years back, I ran into a Chinese visitor, and I asked them, did you ever go to Arizona? They replied, yes, I went to the Grand Canyon from Las Vegas. And I said, did you see any of the rest of Arizona? They said, I didn't know there was anything else to see.

Our vision in a new terminal facility is to introduce all of Arizona to the hundreds of thousands of visitors. We're not going to try and introduce the Grand Canyon to them. They're already going to get to see that marvel, but we want to introduce Flagstaff. We want to introduce Sedona. We want to introduce all the different businesses and the different locations, the White Mountains, Tucson. We want to show those hundreds of thousands of foreign visitors there's a lot to see in Arizona and to come visit. What they see now is what you saw in those pictures, and that is a very old, dated, 1960s facility that doesn't represent Arizona well.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: With no wifi, no interactive maps, no destinations that we show to people.

 $\sf MS.$  BEAVER: Well, and I would also ask, those lines for the TSA and the inspections and that, I mean, from a safety standpoint, I would -- that seems a bit alarming.

MR. NICHOLS: Yes.

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1 MS. BEAVER: I don't know (inaudible) controlled pretty well, but if -- you know, that was something 3 that --4 MR. NICHOLS: It's -- we can get -- we can 5 screen people safely, but what's really a very negative aspect 6 is the fact that we have got to put them in holding areas 7 that's literally outside. We put them -- for lack of a better 8 word, we put them in a cage in the weather because there's no 9 other place for them and -- but that's what we have to do. 10 We've dealt with it. We worked with it. We don't hear too 11 many complaints, but it's not appropriate, and it doesn't do -- it doesn't do the State of Arizona or the Grand Canyon 13 National Park Airport any justice at all. 14 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Vice Chairman Anderson, you 15 had a question? VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: I've got basically two comments. The first one, the one deals with the canyon itself and the experience. The second one deals with water. 19 I've been on the board long enough to remember Chairman Feldmeier. In fact, I'm wearing shorts in his honor today, but we think we have our board meeting in canyon --22 August of '11. 23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah. 24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Something like that, and he had this wild idea, hey, let's go from rim to rim before

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the board meeting, and I signed up. But you didn't hear a helicopter. You didn't hear a plane. It was totally serene. And we were also the guests of Scorpion Tour, I think, the next day. And they're spending millions and millions of dollars on the quiet technology to make those motors quiet. There's nothing like being in a helicopter, and you go over that ledge, and all of a sudden it drops out from under you, so...

 $\label{eq:CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: I was in business. I knew how that worked. \\$ 

VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: So bringing the canyon and the wonders of Arizona to a lot of different people.

Getting to water, you mentioned there's a catchment basin that the FAA made us remove. With my knowledge of water in Arizona, why not -- why throw away a renewable source of water, in that area especially? Is there a way to --

#### UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Harness?

VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: -- harness that basin? I mean, when you fly into San Diego, you fly right over the ocean, right? Why can't you fly over a catchment basin? So I think we need to maybe pressure whoever we need to pressure and say, you know, there's a limited supply. This is a renewable supply, which is really the best part about that -- that catchment basin. So I think, you know, whoever needs to

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 lead that charge, you know, we probably need to, you know, ramp it up a little bit.

MR. NICHOLS: We -- you know, we did think, okay, when they asked us to remove the catch basin, we said, well, where else can we put it? Because that is -- you're correct, that is a renewable water source. The problem is there's no place in the airport. The areas where a catch basin would be -- would work is in the flight safety area, and it was just -- we beat our head against the wall on that one.

It was a good solution back when they built it, but flight regulations changed, and now they -- it's very important to the FAA that there's -- that the ground level in and around aircraft, where they'll be landing and taxiing, is very flat, and the catch basin creates an area that's dangerous to aircraft.

And I apologize. We should have shown you how small the property we have on the airport is. It's very restricted on what space that we have available to put something like that.

DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Before we say the catch basin idea wouldn't work, what I'd like to say, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Anderson, is let us take it back and work with our engineers and see if there is some way to retain both a flat surface and a catch basin. I don't know the answer to that today, but certainly worth exploring.

MS. HERRERA: Mr. Chairman and the Board, if I might interject, part of the master plan is looking at all of our utilities and what we need to do in the future. So it's not that we're only looking at the well as an option. We're looking at all of our various options that might be open to us.

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So the master plan is going to be basically a guidance document for us, and it's simply not going to be done for the next 18 to 24 months, but it will be looking at some of those other alternatives, and I think that's an important point to make. We're not saying that that's our only solution, but right at this point, it's probably the preferred solution or the solution that's going to work best. But the master plan will help drive that decision making.

MS. BEAVER: Chairman Christy.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Ms. Beaver.

MS. BEAVER: This is more a curious-type question. If the reclaiming water -- there isn't space for it at the airport, would there be the possibility of working with that community where it's located maybe in that community? I mean, if we've been buying water, you know, during two different times of the year from them, possibly that would provide another --

MR. NICHOLS: Actually, we are doing that. We have already got partnerships with the community. The only

WWW.ARIZONACOURTREPORTERS.COM GRIFFIN AND ASSOCIATES - 602.264.2230 thing we haven't been able to do is utilize the water ourselves, the greywater. That is one of our major objectives with a new terminal facility is to try to maximize greywater use throughout the airport facility.

We have partnered and we're helping to store water for the community, and also we're looking at -- we have a smaller, old tank that we want to help them store greywater. So we can partner with the local community and use as much greywater as you can.

The reason that there is an awful lot of greywater there, one, the Park Service, most of its water, they -- and they use, I think, 700,000 gallons a day that comes through there, that goes in a bit -- and currently goes into the treatment system that they have there, and that leaves a lot of greywater use for the local community and for the airports. We have not been able, because our infrastructure is not supportive, been able to maximize the use of that greywater. Our plan as we go forward with the airport is wherever we can, we're going to maximize the use of greywater to reduce our water consumption use on the airport.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Well, Mr. Nichols, we want to thank both of you for your very detailed and informative presentation. You answered a lot of issues that come before the Board. I'm sure we haven't heard the end of the contention that probably exists out there, but at least I

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think from the Board's standpoint, we're much more informed
      from the ADOT side as to the justification and what needs to
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      be pursued as far as the airport at the Grand Canyon.
                    Do any board members have any further questions
      of either one?
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                    MS. BEAVER: Just Chairman Christy, would we be
     able to get copies of their presentation?
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                    MR. NICHOLS: Yes, ma'am.
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                    MS. BEAVER: Okay. Either we're -- maybe it
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     would go to Mary and she could e-mail it to us.
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                    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.
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                    MR. NICHOLS: The other thing I'd offer,
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     Mr. Chairman, Board Member Beaver, is we are certainly
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     available at any time if you'd like more in-depth discussion,
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     want to take a tour of the airport and the surrounding area,
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     we're available for that for you.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Thank you both.
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                    MR. NICHOLS: Thank you Chairman Christy,
     Board. Thank you.
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                    CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Moving on to our final item
     is suggestions for future board meeting items. Do \operatorname{---} the
     Chair would entertain any suggestions from board members for
     future board items.
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                    Mr. Roehrich.
                    MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Christy, I just want to call
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66 attention again and remind everybody. Next meeting is August 8th, and it's at the City of Page, and I know that Ms. Beckley this week talked to all of you so we can start arranging any transportation or any other coordination issues. Please respond back to her, because we're going to need more time to plan for that and get everybody coordinated for that as well. So be thinking about that next meeting and the coordinating with Mary on transportation, lodging and everything else in order to make that one function smoothly. CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Any suggestions from the board? Board Member Beaver. MS. BEAVER: I have a question with regard to more recently we've been hearing about accidents on I-17, and

I-17, how it's closed off. I would like to have some kind of a presentation explaining to us what the procedure is, because I know it -- law enforcement's involved in that when they close off, but it seems like they're closing off I-17 for periods of time, and because there is no access roads or frontage roads, it -- you know, they're being detoured around distances.

And I don't -- I mean, there's just not the extra money for I-17, but is there a way that maybe a lane could be opened? I'd like to know kind of how the law enforcement handle that and if they could make some kind of an adjustment for a lane opening rather than having everything

closed for hours on end.
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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mr. Christy, Ms. Beaver, I think that you've touched on something that for us is a long-standing issue we continue to coordinate with. You know, we send our maintenance folks out that respond to these incidences, alert team in the valley, maintenance folks and then other district folks out, and then the rural areas. But as you identified, the Department of Public Safety, when they come on site, they're the incident commander on that site, and because of their investigation and law enforcement activities with it, they determine what can and can't be open. We're always working with them to open it as soon as possible once it's safe to do that, but quite frankly, DPS will not open it until they've gathered enough for the investigation or its safe for us to do that.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So along those lines, Mr. Chairman, I work a lot with the director of Department of Public Safety.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: I'm sorry.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think there needs to be a little bit of a limit to this, because this is a proposed agenda item, so we need to be careful that we're not having discussion related to something that hasn't been agendized. (Inaudible.)

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would just offer this, is let me ask the director of DPS. Perhaps they will come in 3 and give the Board a presentation on incident --4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Control? 5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- control. 6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: That would be --7 MS. BEAVER: Thank you. 8 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: That would be a very good 9 agenda item, because we have had several comments, both e-mail 10 and on a personal level here in Cottonwood regarding that. 11 Any other suggestions? 12 I'm going to be dreaming of Ghost Riders in the Sky from last night's event. And again, our deepest and 14 heartfelt thanks to the Cottonwood folks for a terrific time 15 last night and for hosting this event. We look forward to 16 come back soon if you'll have us. And with that, if there's 17 no further suggestions for future board meetings, the Chair would entertain a motion to adjourn. 19 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: So moved. 20 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: There's a motion by Vice 21 Chairman Anderson to adjourn. Is there a second? 22 MR. CUTHBERTSON: Second. 23 MS. BEAVER: Second. 24 CHAIRMAN CHRISTY: Second by Mr. Cuthbertson. All those in favor -- a discussion of the motion? Hearing no

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discussion, all those in favor of the motion to adjourn
     signify by saying aye. Opposed?
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                   We are adjourned. Thank you.
                   (End of recording.)
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### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the public hearing was made by Kelly Anderson and seconded by Bill Cuthbertson. In a voice vote, the motion carries.

Meeting adjourned 10:50 a.m. MST

Stephen W. Christy, Chairman State Transportation Board

Charles III

John/S. Halikowski, Director

Arizona Department of Transportation