

**STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING
IN PERSON WITH OPTIONAL TELEPHONIC/WEBEX ATTENDANCE
9:00am, March 18, 2022
Town of Marana
11555 West Civic Center Drive
Marana, Arizona 85653**

Call to Order

Board Chairman Thompson called the State Transportation Board Study Session to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Jesse Thompson.

Roll Call by Sherry Garcia

A quorum of the State Transportation Board was present. **In attendance (in person):** Chairman Thompson, Vice Chairman Knight, Board Member Maxwell, Board Member Searle. **In attendance (via WebEx):** Board Member Daniels, Board Jackie Meck. **In attendance (absent):** Board Member Stratton. There were approximately 76 members of the public in the audience.

Opening Remarks

Chairman Thompson reminded members of the public, to keep their computer or phone muted during the meeting, unless called to speak during the Call to Audience.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act

Floyd Roehrich, Jr., read the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. Floyd, also reminded individuals to fill out survey cards, with link shown on the agenda.

Call to the Audience

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

ARIZONA STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
IN PERSON AND BY VIDEOCONFERENCE

Town of Marana
1155 West Civic Center Drive
Marana, Arizona 85653

March 18, 2022
9:00 a.m.

REPORTED BY:
TERESA A. WATSON, RMR
Certified Reporter
Certificate No. 50876

PERFECTA REPORTING
(602) 421-3602

PREPARED FOR:
ADOT - STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

(Certified Copy)

1 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF EXCERPT OF ELECTRONIC
2 PROCEEDINGS, ADOT - STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
3 was reported from electronic media by TERESA A. WATSON,
4 Registered Merit Reporter and a Certified Reporter in and for
5 the State of Arizona.

6
7 PARTICIPANTS:

8 Board Members:

9 Jesse Thompson, Chairman
10 Gary Knight, Vice Chairman
11 Richard Searle, Board Member
12 Jenn Daniels, Board Member (via Webex)
13 Ted Maxwell, Board Member
14 Jackie Meck, Board Member (via Webex)
15 Steve Stratton, Board Member (Absent)

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CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Mayor Ed Honea, Town of Marana.....	4
Mayor Christian Price, City of Maricopa.....	5
Karla Avalos, Southern Arizona Director for Senator Kelly....	8
Kee Allen Begay, Junior, Navajo Council Delegate, Many Farms Chapter.....	8
Alton Joe Shepherd, Board of Supervisors, Apache County.....	10
Darryl Ahasteen, Commission President (via Webex).....	12
Rayond Smith, Navajo Councilman (via Webex).....	39

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1 (Beginning of excerpt.)

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Again, let's move on to call
4 to the audience, and I'll have Floyd introduce those people that
5 are calling in to make comments, including those that are here
6 present.

7 So again, everyone will be muted when they call
8 in to the meeting. When your name is called to provide your
9 comment, you will indicate your presence by virtually raising
10 your hand using your phone keypad or through the Webex
11 application. The Webex host will guide you through the unmuting
12 and muting process following the instructions included with the
13 meeting agenda.

14 In person, there is an opportunity for members of
15 the public to discuss items of interest with the Board. Please
16 fill out a Request For Public Input Form and give to the Board
17 Secretary if you wish to address the Board.

18 In the interest of time, a three-minute time
19 limit will be imposed. So let's proceed.

20 Floyd.

21 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Our first
22 speaker is Mayor Honea from the Town of Marana.

23 MAYOR HONEA: I am?

24 MR. ROEHRICH: You don't have to be, sir. I can
25 go to somebody else.

1 MAYOR HONEA: Where do I have to go?

2 MR. ROEHRICH: Would you please come up to the
3 microphone, please?

4 MAYOR HONEA: I'm used to sitting up there.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I was going to point that
6 out, but...

7 MAYOR HONEA: I don't even know if this is on.
8 Is it on?

9 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, sir.

10 MAYOR HONEA: Anyway, thank you all for coming
11 here today. I don't have any heavy, heavy things to talk to you
12 about. We're honored to have the Arizona Transportation Board,
13 ADOT, represented here, and anything we can do to facilitate
14 your stay or help you, please ask us to do so. So thank you for
15 coming.

16 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mayor
17 Christian Price.

18 MAYOR PRICE: Mr. Chairman, Director, members of
19 the Board, I'll take up his time, so don't worry about that.
20 I'll do the heavy stuff. No. Just in jest. Appreciate all
21 your service to the state.

22 You know, last time I was before you, I kind of
23 talked about 347, the City of Maricopa and the challenges that
24 we face there, and talked a little bit about some of the things
25 that are -- that we're trying to do like we always do, which is

1 bring stakeholders together and gather money and be able to move
2 forward together as stakeholders rather than asking you to fund
3 everything.

4 And so I do have a bit of an update, and that is
5 on the PRTA. The Supreme Court ruled against us, and so the
6 PRTA has been scrapped, which is the Pinal County Regional
7 Transit Authority. We had a variable tax rate in there, and so
8 unfortunately -- in my opinion, the Court should have left the
9 tax in place and just fixed the rate and made it all one
10 standard rate. They chose to scrap the whole thing.

11 Now, that leaves a couple of opportunities. We
12 could take it back to the voters, fix that issue and leave it as
13 is this November. That is on the table. It is also on the
14 table that we'll come back here in a year and a half and put
15 something new in place. Hopefully we adjust ADOT's cost benefit
16 analysis that, you know, roads that were built or scheduled to
17 be built in 2016 that cost \$1 now cost \$1.74. So almost double
18 the price.

19 And so the reality is, is that with the varying
20 inflation and gas taxes and gas time, it's a challenge right now
21 to build roads, as you know. And so it is possible that PRT
22 will come back with a larger incentive in order to pay for these
23 astronomical price increases. And so, ultimately, that would
24 create additional leverage to hopefully get more money towards
25 the fixing of these roadways and provide more offsets so that

1 ADOT's not responsible for everything. So don't count us out
2 quite yet.

3 I know that also Prop 400 is moving through the
4 Legislature. There's two companion bills. I'm sure we'll get
5 that update later in the legislative report, but it did pass the
6 Senate here yesterday or the day before. We're big supporters
7 of that, because the northern portion of 347 has \$92 million in
8 that -- in that plan, and it is critical to be able to afford
9 all the fixes that the 347 requires.

10 The last thing I would say is -- I know my time
11 is short -- is that I would really encourage ADOT to also seek
12 after the moneys from the federal. I know we have a
13 representative here from Senator Kelly's office. Please seek
14 after moneys from the federal side of the infrastructure plan
15 for the I-11 tier two funding. I know that there's a bill going
16 through. General Maxwell and I testified on that here this past
17 week. It is moving successfully, but we'd certainly like to see
18 that ADOT continues to be the leader on that and take advantage
19 of this money from the feds. Call down that money. I know we
20 have local matches, but we'll do all that we can as well to help
21 support that, because we feel that the I-11 is such a critical
22 piece of infrastructure for this state.

23 So thank you very much. Appreciate your time.

24 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, Mayor. Thank you,
25 Mayor.

1 Floyd.

2 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Ms. Karla
3 Avalos.

4 MS. AVALOS: Good morning, Chairman, members of
5 the Board, Mayor Honea. My name is Karla Avalos. I am southern
6 Arizona director for Senator Mark Kelly, and it's a pleasure to
7 be here. It's my first State Transportation Board meeting, so
8 that's exciting.

9 I'd just like to share this morning that our
10 office is working and stands at the ready to work with cities,
11 towns, counties, transit authorities, metropolitan planning
12 organizations and ADOT to make sure our state maximizes federal
13 investments authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

14 Thank you.

15 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you.

17 MR. ROEHRICH: This is going to be a short
18 meeting if everybody's so quick. Thank you. That goes for
19 staff as well, by the way.

20 So our next speaker is Mr. Kee Allen Begay.

21 MR. BEGAY: Good morning, ADOT board members,
22 (indiscernible) Thompson. (Indiscernible.)

23 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: (Indiscernible.)

24 Good morning to everyone, ADOT administrators.

25 The three areas I want to express to the board

1 members here, you know that there will be construction going on
2 between Many Farms and Chinle, Arizona. We appreciate the
3 construction that's happened. I forwarded the Many Farms
4 Chapter Resolution, MF-36-03-2022. That's requesting extending
5 the construction an additional three miles right into the
6 community of Many Farms. As it is right now, it stops short
7 of -- the construction stops short that is going to go through
8 the community of Many Farms. So we're requesting, humbly ask
9 that the construction extends for at least an additional three
10 miles so that it will go right into the community of Many Farms.

11 The other area that I'm continuing to advocate
12 for in working with the broadband with other counties and
13 tribes, and have been talking, the Navajo Nation has passed a
14 resolution requesting the Governor's office to extend his Smart
15 Highway initiative of all the interstate into the northern part
16 of Arizona as well. The state right-of-way. We are advocating
17 particularly for the 191 up into north -- to get the Smart
18 Highway project in place, because I see Senator Kelly's office
19 here. I think we do look to Senator Kelly to secure a lot of
20 these broadband fundings and a lot of these rural construction
21 funding into the state of Arizona.

22 So I know a lot of these fundings will be
23 distributed directly to the state government. So as tribe --
24 tribal members, we will be asking the Governor to see if they
25 could be able to set aside some of these fundings for the

1 projects in -- on the Navajo Nation.

2 So that's the basic area that I wanted to cover
3 today, and I apologize for taking up the whole three minutes
4 here. Thank you very much.

5 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: (Indiscernible.)

6 Floyd.

7 MR. ROEHRICH: No apology necessary. It's there
8 for your use.

9 Our next speaker is Mr. Alton Joe Shepherd.

10 MR. SHEPHERD: Thank you. Good morning, board
11 members, Mr. Chair, staff.

12 Three things also I wanted to bring to the
13 attention of the Board in its future planning is, as you know,
14 I'm a board supervisor for Apache County, District 2. I'm going
15 into my second term. Two years into my second term. So I
16 wanted to bring to the attention of the board members we do have
17 four -- or several different public schools that align within --
18 with on the Nation, of Navajo Nation, and also with that, we do
19 have US-191, which is a total length from the Utah state line
20 all the way down to the southern tip of Apache County.

21 As far as road widening and shoulder widening and
22 repavement, I-40 going north is getting really, really bad to
23 where the buses have brought to my attention -- the
24 transportation people have -- saying that what can we do to get
25 the road repaved through there for the public schools? And so I

1 wanted to see -- to bring that to your attention, and proper
2 planning on US-191.

3 Southern wise, going south of I-40 is the same
4 way coming up through the southern tip, and so I just wanted to
5 bring that.

6 The other is as you move forward, I don't know
7 how the scheduling happens, but hopefully we can get a board
8 meeting up on -- in District 2 of Apache County just to kind of
9 give you an idea of, you know, what the area is and how bad --
10 how our roads look is one, and there's a second one that I
11 wanted to bring.

12 Also lastly is -- next month will be national
13 counties governance month. So our counties are going to be very
14 active in promoting and doing what we do with our constituents
15 and our people and showcasing a lot of things with our county.

16 So, again, I wish you guys have a good meeting,
17 and it's always good to see you and be before you guys just to
18 bring some of these issues and working together as board
19 supervisor with you guys as well. So thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: (Indiscernible.) Thank you
21 very much for those comments.

22 Floyd.

23 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mr. Darryl
24 Ahasteen, and he is an online speaker.

25 Mr. Ahasteen, please raise your hand so you can

1 be unmuted.

2 WEBEX HOST: Mr. Ahasteen, I have sent a request
3 to unmute your line. You can unmute your line at this time.

4 MR. AHASTEEN: This is Darryl Ahasteen from
5 Nahata Dziil Commission Government. Basically, I sent in my
6 (indiscernible) page presentation already. I have -- some of
7 it, I've covered it before. Basically, I just want to update
8 some information for you on us getting support from different
9 entities like Fort Defiance agency District 18 council, Fort
10 Defiance agency council themselves. I've been talking with the
11 Board of Supervisors, Nelson Davis out of Apache County, and he
12 kind of indicated that they will be supporting this. I need to
13 get a resolution up to him so Apache County can support us with
14 it.

15 The school, the school itself, getting with the
16 superintendent, and the idea of moving the port of entry from
17 Milepost 339 down to 318, they're all in favor of it, and
18 basically just gaining support, and that's about it.

19 Thank you. Appreciate making time for me. Thank
20 you. Bye.

21 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, Darryl.

22 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, those are all the
23 requests we've received.

24 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Thank you for all the
25 comments that have been made, and that gives us a better idea as

1 to your situation within your communities. So again, all of
2 these comments have been made will be -- will be going back for
3 us at the end of the year to let us know how many comments have
4 been made by the public and their concerns. So thank you very
5 much.

6 We will now go on to Item 1, Director's report.
7 Director.

8 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 Good morning, Board Members, and I'd like to
10 thank Mayor Honea for those excellent beans last night. It was
11 a good recommendation. I had three helpings, and I think I'm
12 paying for it today, but they definitely stick with you.

13 So, Mr. Chairman, I'll start off with a little
14 bit of talking about what's going on with the federal side of
15 things. Last week, as you know, Congress funded the IIJA, or as
16 it's known, the BIL. So it's been fully funded, and now we're
17 looking at both the formula, and as the mayor mentioned, grant
18 programs.

19 Currently we're managing or looking at 24
20 different grant programs that we'll be dealing with, and there
21 is -- you know, a lot of things happening with trying to
22 understand what these grant programs are going to do. So there
23 is, you know, certainly a lot to do with the 700-page bill.
24 ADOT has established an internal team that's going through the
25 bill and also looking at the grant program.

1 On the Governor's side, we now have established
2 also an IIJA Executive Committee. As you know, there's a
3 national coordinator named Mitch Landrieu, and the Governor has
4 named a state coordinator. It's his chief of operations, Sarah
5 Webber, and she'll be pulling all the agency heads together that
6 are affected by IIJA, and we'll be looking at this from an
7 enterprise level.

8 The reason that's important, for example, one
9 subset of IIJA that's getting a lot of talk is electric
10 vehicles, and that's not just something that affects ADOT.
11 We'll probably be working in concert with the Department of
12 Environmental Quality and the Arizona Commerce Authority as we
13 moved forward on this.

14 And speaking of that plan, we do have to get our
15 state plan, at least the initial portion of it, done and turned
16 in to FHWA by August of this year. So it's a pretty big, heavy
17 lift. There's a lot of stakeholder meetings that have to go on,
18 a lot of public outreach, and so an internal team, subset team,
19 has been established on that, with Floyd heading it up out of
20 the Director's office. So that's what's happening on the
21 federal side.

22 Turning to the state side. Last week,
23 Mr. Chairman and board members, you were at the ribbon cutting
24 for State Route 189. That has -- or is an incredible project,
25 as you know, for the Nogales area, but more importantly, for the

1 border region and the overall economy of the state as we seek to
2 safely increase and more speedily move our traffic through that
3 we share with Mexico.

4 As you know, we have a \$36 billion a year trade
5 with Mexico. So making sure that traffic moves back and forth
6 is very important.

7 I'd like to give a shout out to Rod Lane and his
8 team. Rod was our district engineer on the project, and really
9 delivered just a beautiful project, Rod. So (inaudible).

10 Kudos.

11 The other thing that I want to report on is
12 what's happening over at the Legislature. Right now, there's
13 probably over 20 bills moving through with some kind of
14 appropriation on them for transportation. Most of them have --
15 I think, have passed out of their initial committees, but they
16 have to head into the approach committees and ultimately into
17 the budget process.

18 We estimate there's probably somewhere around a
19 couple hundred million dollars worth of projects that are being
20 requested. But as you will recall, the Governor has put in
21 \$400 million in his executive budget request for widening I-10,
22 and I think those bills are going to probably be discussed in
23 light of the Governor's request and what's happening with that.

24 So we're keeping an eye on those, but eventually,
25 they have to go into what the Legislature calls "the box" or the

1 amount of available money at the end of session for projects
2 that they're willing to appropriate for.

3 The Mayor mentioned I-11 and tier two funding.
4 There is a bill at the Legislature that is encompassing that,
5 but he also mentioned Board Member Maxwell testifying at -- with
6 him. So I would be remiss if I didn't mention that that bill
7 also had tier two funding for the Sonoran Corridor and also for
8 the North-South Freeway. So that tier two funding would be for
9 a phase of the tier two study for those three projects.

10 And Mayor, we will be taking a hard look at grant
11 programs to ensure that, you know, we are taking full advantage
12 of them. So we have now centralized all the grants in an area
13 under Mr. Byres, and as I said, they're all fully being tracked
14 and looked at.

15 So I'd like to turn a little bit to I-10, if I
16 could, Mr. Chairman, because Mayor Honea asked me about that
17 last night, and I'd just like to give you an update on what's
18 happening there on items that are accomplished and scheduled
19 tasks.

20 So right now, the project scope through an
21 alternatives analysis, ADOT, MAG and the Gila River Community
22 have agreed upon a development plan for the widening of I-10
23 from Loop 202 to SR-387. So that scope will include widening to
24 three lanes, with one new general purpose lane in each direction
25 from Riggs Road to 387, and to four lanes with one new HOV lane

1 and one new general purpose lane in each direction from Loop 202
2 to Riggs Road. The scope also includes traffic interchange
3 improvements in addition through the encompassed length of the
4 project.

5 So the draft design concept report has been
6 prepared, and it's been approved by ADOT and MAG and is
7 currently being reviewed by Gila River. I believe that document
8 will probably get finalized pretty soon. The draft
9 environmental assessment's been prepared, and again, that's been
10 reviewed by ADOT and MAG and has been sent to the Gila River
11 Community for their public comment period and approval.

12 The easement plan change approval is required for
13 the additional main line lanes, in addition to broadband within
14 the existing easement. The approval process has been agreed to
15 with the superintendent of the Bureau of Indian Affairs giving
16 final approval upon completion of the EA and DCR.

17 Acquisition of additional easement is located at
18 the interchanges and crossroads along the I-10 corridor. The
19 process for acquisition of additional new easement is necessary
20 for the construction of the traffic interchanges, and that's
21 been established and is proceeding in concert with Gila River,
22 MAG and ADOT for surveying, appraisals and property owner
23 negotiations.

24 Easements are scheduled for clearance following
25 the completion of the environmental assessment, DCR. Following

1 in the -- or starting in the fall of calendar year of '23. The
2 Gila River Bridge, the environmental categorical exclusion is
3 scheduled for completion by fall of 2022 and final design
4 completed this winter. So construction, it is on schedule to
5 start in early calendar year of '23.

6 So the construction schedule we're looking at is
7 the project will be phased with construction starting at the
8 south end in Pinal County of the corridor in early '24, with
9 construction at the north end, Maricopa County, starting in late
10 FY '24, early FY '25.

11 So as you can see, there is a lot going on with
12 this project. There's many different aspects of it as we're
13 moving forward that have to be dealt with on many different
14 levels, with different agencies and officials from different
15 governments.

16 So I just wanted to let you know, Mr. Chair,
17 we're not sitting idly by waiting for that 400 million. There's
18 a lot of background work going on that's taking place. If that
19 appropriation goes through, that money will certainly help move
20 this project along.

21 So, Mr. Chair, with that, I'll conclude my report
22 and see if there's any questions.

23 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, Director.

24 It certainly was very enjoyable meeting at the
25 ribbon cutting last week, and I certainly do appreciate you

1 coming up to Flagstaff and then bringing me down. I really
2 enjoyed that, and had very interesting conversation, people like
3 Karla and others that were there from the Congressional
4 (indiscernible) representing certain senators. I really do
5 appreciate that and the opportunity to talk to that.

6 And I do appreciate that money that went into
7 that road. And again, we're talking about \$400 million going
8 into I-10. Thinking wouldn't it be nice, wouldn't it be
9 something if -- if that 50 million could also be approved as
10 (indiscernible) the Rural Transportation Advisory Council.
11 There's a lot of work -- these are roads that are in the rural
12 communities. I think most of them are. So -- and that's my
13 comment on that.

14 So any of the board members (indiscernible)?

15 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair.

16 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Ted.

17 MR. MAXWELL: So Mr. Chair, Director, first up, I
18 want to echo the words on 189, and I think it's really important
19 for us to remember how 189 came to its completion. It was a
20 phenomenal job. Rod, congratulations on that, but it really
21 took statewide effort from the ADOT team to get that done, but
22 it really took a community effort.

23 You know, long before I was on this board, there
24 were a lot of folks that were traveling to multiple State
25 Transportation Board meetings encouraging the Board to move 189

1 into the five-year plan, because it wasn't. It was originally
2 designed in two phases, and the most important phase being that
3 in flyover, when it hits the intersection of I-19, was critical,
4 but there wasn't enough funding for it.

5 But the community of Nogales came together with
6 the -- both the community, the port authority, the county, they
7 all came together to provided funding through some of the
8 (indiscernible) fees and their fees that they were collecting,
9 come back into the project, and it was a community effort as
10 well to get it done. But it shows -- I think it -- people have
11 to understand is it shows the ability to engage with the Board,
12 the State Transportation Board, impact the five-year plan, and a
13 lot of times it's just a matter of showing up and really -- and
14 staying engaged. So I'd, one, like to compliment the
15 department, the community down there of -- to making it happen.

16 If you haven't seen it yet, I got the honor of
17 going -- flying all -- or driving all the way over it when I
18 thought I was going to the ribbon cutting site. Then I
19 eventually figured out that I was in the wrong spot and made my
20 way back, but it is truly an impressive piece of infrastructure,
21 and it is going to make a difference down there.

22 And it wasn't just about the flow of traffic and
23 goods, which is, trust me, the most important -- the economic
24 impact that's going to have and benefit it's going to have is
25 going to be huge, but it also played into the safe -- and the

1 high school there is now in a much safer position when it comes
2 to traffic going in and out of that area than it was before. So
3 there's so many things that can go into it. So appreciate that.

4 The other thing I wanted to say regarding
5 (indiscernible), I did testify with Mayor Price and others on
6 the tier three. I wanted to make sure that everybody
7 understands that that was not an ADOT board -- or an ASTB board
8 position. I made it very clear during my testimony that I was
9 there testing -- testifying on behalf of myself and the Southern
10 Arizona Leadership Council and this region. But the Board has
11 not taken an official position (indiscernible), because if this
12 fund's authorized, then it really comes back to where -- how do
13 these items fit into the five-year plan.

14 So, Director, my -- to get to the question that I
15 have, that I'd like to hear is two-fold. One, can you kind of
16 describe the process of -- a lot of people think the Legislature
17 approves the money, boom, it's done, and it's now
18 (indiscernible) describe the process of what happens after we
19 get that list of items that they have funded, at least
20 partially, and then also just wanted to -- (indiscernible) I-10
21 was great. I think it would be important to re- -- possibly
22 re-emphasize, but it sounds like everything's moving forward
23 with the Gila River Community, their partners, and they want to
24 see that I-10 happen as well.

25 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Yeah. So thank you,

1 Mr. Maxwell, for that, and I'm sorry your MiG-29 couldn't get
2 you down to Nogales that day. It was (indiscernible).

3 Anyway, so taking the last question -- well, I'm
4 sorry. I'm just -- let me go back to the other one.

5 So the Legislature, as you know, on different
6 fronts, they've got a number of bills they're looking at from an
7 appropriations standpoint. Depending on what those projects are
8 and where their state is as far as readiness, it could be, you
9 know, anywhere from one to two to three years before we might
10 actually start construction on those, and that's something we've
11 asked the Rural Transportation Advisory Council for, is more
12 information in that, you know, you're putting these projects
13 forward, but what's the state of readiness? What work has been
14 done on them? You know, is this funding that you're putting
15 forth going to be adequate, because the numbers didn't come from
16 us. And we're not quite sure how they arrived at those.

17 And as has already been mentioned, construction
18 cost, labor costs, materials cost, everything is going up. And
19 so money appropriated in today, you know, may not be enough for
20 a project coming into the future.

21 So depending on the project, whether it's located
22 on the state system or if it's a local project that ADOT might
23 be administering, you know, those are all going to have
24 different variabilities as far as starting time and construction
25 and what can be done. So on that aspect, you know, it's hard to

1 answer your question categorically. So it would depend on each
2 one.

3 If the budget request for I-10 is approved, as
4 you noted, the work is moving forward. We'll keep moving
5 forward with that work in much the same way, because a lot of
6 this has both state and federal statu timelines. As you note,
7 the projects are moving forward, and that's due to the
8 relationship we've been able to develop with Maricopa
9 Association of Governments, our folks here in Pinal County,
10 certainly from Pima County as contributing, you know, traffic
11 into the project.

12 So that relationship is strong, and it's our
13 intent to make sure it stays that way, because really, as you
14 point out, it's a community effort. We all had to work together
15 to accomplish that. So, you know, you won't see shovels in the
16 ground if that money is appropriated right away, but that money
17 allows us to start closing up more of the issues that have to be
18 closed up before construction begins.

19 So on your other one now, I've got to confess, I
20 think I forgot.

21 MR. MAXWELL: Director, I think you answered
22 (indiscernible) the relationship, the fact that I-10 is moving
23 forward with the Gila River Community's support above it as
24 well, and I think what you mentioned is good for people to
25 understand, because sometimes, especially those who may not be

1 as familiar with transportation, think that the money's been
2 appropriated --

3 MR. HALIKOWSKI: Yeah.

4 MR. MAXWELL: -- and it's going to start
5 tomorrow, and it's -- you know, we -- our five-year plan
6 obviously GETS adjusted based on projects that may not be in it
7 that need to be in it, and so I just appreciate you kind of
8 explaining that it is a process.

9 And I think probably the best takeaway I had from
10 that is the projects that are already doing the groundwork to be
11 ready, to go and move forward are the ones that you can get to
12 as a -- as a department earlier, and so communities are out
13 there trying to work things through the Legislature, and I think
14 that's the future. I think the federal dollars, state dollars,
15 appropriations is how a lot of the new expansion improvements
16 will occur in the -- in infrastructure.

17 MR. HALIKOWSKI: Right.

18 MR. MAXWELL: It's really important for those
19 communities and the elected officials, if you've got regional
20 transportation authority, to do the groundwork so that when the
21 funds available, then ADOT can be responsive instead of having
22 to start the process all over.

23 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: And, Mr. Chairman, to that
24 end, I failed to mention the Governor did also request in his
25 executive budget 50 million for rural communities. That is

1 communities outside of Maricopa and Pima County to have match
2 money for grants, and so that money, if it's approved, will be
3 administered by ADOT, and we'll be working closely with the
4 communities on grants and taking a look at what's viable and
5 what can be done with those.

6 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, again.

7 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair.

8 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Gary.

9 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10 I know I've talked with Floyd. I was hoping that
11 next month's meeting in Nogales, we'll be able to on Thursday
12 afternoon maybe have a brief tour for those of us that had
13 conflicts and were unable to attend so that we can kind of --

14 MR. HALIKOWSKI: (Indiscernible.)

15 MR. KNIGHT: -- get a tour of what Ted has
16 described. It's got to be a great piece of engineering. So
17 we'd like to see that.

18 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: All right. We'll see what
19 we can do to get a tour set up of not only the flyover,
20 Mr. Chairman, but if there's any interest, the port of entry and
21 its functioning, too, because one of the main reasons the
22 flyovers were built because of the increasing truck traffic that
23 we're seeing from Mexico.

24 And to that point, realize that ADOT has an
25 entire border master plan. We'll be flying down soon to meet

1 with some folks from Douglas who want the connector road,
2 because, you know, Mexico is planning to redo the port in Agua
3 Prieta on their side, which would lead to us working with GSA to
4 redo the port on our side, and there's a lot of requests for the
5 connector road to be built at SR-89.

6 So we'll be traveling down there to talk with
7 them about timing and feasibility for that. And then, of
8 course, Board Member Knight, I would be remiss if I didn't -- or
9 if I left San Luis and the plans there, because there's a lot of
10 GSA activity there also that we'll be working with, and we both
11 know the pedestrian and commercial and vehicular traffic in San
12 Luis issues. We have to continue addressing those.

13 So border master plan. We've got some meetings
14 set up with some delegates from Sonora. We've had an excellent
15 relationship with them under the Governor's administration.
16 We'll again keep that moving, because as we know on the border,
17 it takes both sides to make the project viable.

18 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you, Director. Thank you
19 Mr. Chair.

20 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you. Thank you for the
21 comments, and as I've seen, there's numerous number of
22 opportunities as we move forward.

23 I'd like to see how we can look into those funds
24 and how we can apply those funds (indiscernible) those projects
25 have been coming before us, but we're not able to fund the funds

1 for (indiscernible) looking into it. So we're (indiscernible)
2 right now in the rural area, 191 going north from I-40 all the
3 way out into Utah. Apparently that is really in need. So if
4 these kind of projects come (indiscernible) we need to
5 (indiscernible) you know, the grants that might be available out
6 there as a funding opportunity.

7 So thank you very much, Director.

8 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
9 and I just want to remind the Board, though, is that we are
10 competing for those funds on a nationwide basis. So we really
11 have to make sure that our applications are done well, and the
12 grants are not free. I mean, the State will have to put up
13 matching money, and we'll have to watch that closely with our
14 state dollars. So thank you, sir.

15 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Jesse.

16 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Richard.

17 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Yeah. Director
18 Halikowski, will you please copy me on the trip to Douglas so I
19 can attend?

20 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Yes, sir. I think we're
21 going on the 24th now.

22 MR. ROEHRICH: Are you talking about the trip --
23 are you -- they're talking about the board meeting. They wanted
24 to do the tour --

25 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Oh, we're going down to

1 meet with Supervisor English and --

2 MR. ROEHRICH: Oh, it's on -- yes. It's on March
3 24th.

4 MR. HALIKOWSKI: Yeah. It's been bounced around.
5 It was later in the month, but the Governor decided he needed
6 the airplane more than me, and I couldn't talk him out of it.

7 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: If you'd copy me on that,
8 I'd appreciate it. Thank you.

9 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: We'll do that, sir. Thank
10 you.

11 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you again for the
12 comments made by the Board as well as the report.

13 John, thank you.

14 Let's go on to the next item. That's Item 2,
15 District Engineer's Report, Rod Lane, Southcentral District.

16 Rod.

17 MR. LANE: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members of
18 the Board. First of all, it's been quite a long time since I've
19 stood in front of this body to do a presentation, so very
20 excited to do that. Nice to see you all in person. Nice to see
21 everybody's face. I really just enjoy this very much, so thank
22 you for the opportunity. Onward and upward.

23 To the next slide, please.

24 So you've all been talking about 189. Very
25 appreciative. It is an excellent project down there. We

1 completed that. I want to talk about ADOT's -- the Southcentral
2 District's recent successes, and that's the top one that we've
3 got going on down here now. It was a design build by
4 Ames/Horrocks. Construction value of \$82 million with ADOT's
5 GEC, general engineering consultant, being AECOM.

6 You know, you've all talked recently about how
7 successful this project is, and I think it's a fantastic
8 project. I think I would be remiss if I didn't take this moment
9 to let you know some of the excellent people that have worked on
10 this, this project. There's three specific ones that I really
11 wanted to point out. I'm just the fortunate one that sits in
12 this chair. These are the folks that did all the work, did all
13 the pushing, really got this thing done. The main one being
14 Jeremy Moore, one of my assistant district engineers, was just
15 excellent on this project. Annette Riley, the project manager
16 that works out of Phoenix, also just top-notch on this job. And
17 then our person in the field representing ADOT down there, Chris
18 Page. Again, excellent. Those are the three that really pushed
19 this project forward and really deserve the Kudos more than
20 anybody else. They were the one that got the calls in the
21 middle of the night and so on. So just excellent, excellent
22 example of a successful project done by them.

23 On to the next slide, please.

24 Another project that we have in the area, in this
25 vicinity, is the Ina -- excuse me -- the Ruthrauff Road traffic

1 interchange at Camino Del Cerro, and that was completed about
2 four or five months ago, a contract by Sundt Construction for
3 \$80 million. It was a low bid/build job with an A plus B
4 component, which means the contractor also bid time. It's a new
5 diamond interchange with the bridge over the Union Pacific
6 Railroad and also Highway Drive. A very successful project.
7 Went very well.

8 Next slide, please.

9 And then the third success that I really wanted
10 to bring up was the Houghton Road interchange, kind of on the
11 south side of town as you're heading out east on I-10, and that
12 was a contract that was done by Ames Construction for 23.4
13 million, with a delivery method, just a standard low bid
14 delivery method, but the unique thing about this is this is the
15 region's first diverging diamond. So we've got a few diverging
16 diamonds all over the state, but this was our first, and it
17 seems to be functioning really well. The project went really
18 well. The community seems pretty excited about it, so we're
19 pretty pleased with that one.

20 On to the next slide, please.

21 Now we'll get into the existing construction that
22 we have going on in the Southcentral District.

23 This is a rehab of a bridge deck in Sahuarita at
24 the -- on I-19 where we're removing a bridge deck and a box
25 girder structure. So that's an interesting project, because

1 obviously when you remove the top of a box girder, you kind of
2 really unstabilize the whole structure, which is why all of that
3 shoring is underneath there, to do that. And we've also
4 combined this project with a -- with a pavement preservation
5 project there in the same area. So Fisher Sand and Gravel is
6 doing that project for \$13.12 million, and we expect to have
7 that one done in early 2022.

8 Next slide, please.

9 SR-77 has got a lot of work going on it right
10 now. We've got two projects going through town that are
11 combined in one contract, and that's what we're talking about
12 here. One of them goes from I-10 to River. Then the other one
13 goes from River to Calle Concordia. It's all advertised and was
14 bid as one contract being done by Granite Construction for a
15 value of 34.37 million. Low bid delivery. We expect to have
16 that one done in about a year from now. It's moving along very
17 nicely. It's a big stretch of road, about 10 miles.

18 Next slide, please.

19 And then the other section of SR-77 that's just
20 starting is going from the end of that job, so Calle Concordia
21 up to the Tangerine Road portion, and that's being done by
22 Sunland Construction, for a value of 11.8 million, .77 million.
23 Low bid project. We expect to have that one done in about a
24 year, and the good thing about the combination of all of these
25 jobs is it now really completes SR-77 being reconstructed all

1 the way within Pima County. So in the last five years or so,
2 we've constructed -- reconstructed on I-10 for -- excuse me --
3 SR-77 all the way from I-10, all the way up to the Pinal County
4 line has all been completely redone within those last five
5 years.

6 Next slide, please.

7 A project in the vicinity down here, kind of
8 right outside the door is going to be a pavement preservation on
9 I-10 from Marana or Tangerine to Ina Road. That one's just
10 kicking off now. We just had our partnering a couple weeks ago.
11 FNF Construction is doing that for a value of 6.3 million.
12 Regular standard low bid/build, and we expect to have that one
13 done this summer. It should go pretty quick while school is
14 out.

15 Next slide, please.

16 And on SR-86. Sunland Asphalt is also just
17 kicking off a small pavement perseveration project that been
18 delivered by design/bid/build. That's SR-86 Kinney to I-19.
19 This also kind of completes SR-86. If you'll recall, a couple
20 years ago, a few years ago, we completed SR-86 all the way from
21 the airport to Kinney. Now this one will take it from Kinney to
22 I-19. So again, a full kind of reconstruct of SR-86 in that
23 whole area.

24 Next slide, please.

25 I-10B has got a -- got a bridge reconstruction

1 project, modernization on I-10B down in the Benson area. A
2 complete reconstruction of that bridge, but it's off the main
3 line I-10. That's being done by FNF Construction. We'll have
4 that one done this fall as well.

5 Next slide.

6 We've got an ITS infrastructure project that's
7 kicking off to take broadband down along I-19, from I-10 to the
8 U.S. border. That's a design/bid/build project. So it's just
9 kicking off, like I said. The contractor/designer is Sundt
10 Construction, and Kimley-Horn is the design firm, for a value of
11 \$14.98 million, and that's got about a year to go. The design
12 is just kicking off on that one, but the construction should go
13 pretty quick.

14 Next slide.

15 SR-77 -- or SR-79 has kind of a unique bridge
16 construction method that's happening. This was -- this job is
17 to replace the bridge over the Gila River, just north of
18 Florence, being done by FNF Construction for a contract amount
19 of 22.15 million. It was delivered by our construction manager
20 at risk method. We expect to have this one done by 2023.

21 This is theoretically one of the methods that's
22 being considered for the reconstruction of the I-10 bridge over
23 the Gila River. So if you look at those slides, you can see
24 that that top corner section on the upper left, that's how we're
25 going to build it.

1 So we're basically going to build a new
2 substructure underneath the existing bridge, put two new bridges
3 on the outside and let traffic go on the center. Okay? Then
4 when we finish the two new bridges on the outside, we'll put the
5 traffic on the outside. We'll demolish that middle section,
6 which you'll see in that -- in that second thing. Then we'll
7 start -- we'll keep -- put traffic on the other side. We'll
8 slide the one bridge over, put traffic to the slide (sic), slide
9 the other bridge over and then cut off the edge of the piers.

10 So that's kind of the method that we're looking
11 at for constructing the Gila River. Hopefully it will be
12 successful here and we can use that same process on I-10 when we
13 move forward with that one.

14 Next bridge -- next slide, please.

15 SR-287, that should be a K, not an -- or that
16 should be an S, not a K. Sorry about that. It should be SR-287
17 project from SR-87 to SR-79B. That's a pavement preservation
18 project up in Pinal County between Coolidge and Florence.
19 That's just getting kicked off as well. We expect to have that
20 one done this summer.

21 Next slide, please.

22 More work going on up in Pinal County area as
23 several bridge preservation and preservation projects, again, in
24 the Florence/Coolidge area, Highline Canal and McClellan Wash
25 and a bridge over the Santa Cruz Wash. We expect to have that

1 work done this summer as well.

2 Next slide, please.

3 And that would be the end of my presentation. I
4 would like to point out that you are in U of A territory down
5 here, and we do have two basketball teams in the NCAA
6 tournament. So I couldn't -- I think I would be remiss if I
7 didn't say that. So are there any questions?

8 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Does any member have
9 questions for Rod Lane?

10 MR. ROEHRICH: Rod, you can't do it and not say
11 when the game is. Now everybody's wondering, hey, when's the
12 game?

13 MR. LANE: The game is tonight at 4:30, I think.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 4:30. 4:30.

15 MR. LANE: You're welcome to come to my house.
16 I've got some people coming over.

17 MR. ROEHRICH: Who are they playing?

18 MR. LANE: They are playing -- Baylor? Is it
19 Baylor?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Wright State.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

22 MR. MAXWELL: Wright State.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're going to play
24 tomorrow at 7:00.

25 MR. LANE: Okay.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And again on Monday.

2 MR. ROEHRICH: Go Wildcats (indiscernible.)

3 MR. LANE: Very exciting for this region.

4 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Sounds good. Any board
5 member?

6 Richard.

7 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Rod, just two things.
8 Time goes by fast when you're having fun, but it seems to me
9 like the Ruthrauff project got done a whole lot quicker than the
10 Ina Road project. Was it just due to the complexity or was I
11 just missing something?

12 MR. LANE: I believe they were about the same
13 time. I'm trying to remember. Ruthrauff was done with A plus
14 B, so in a A plus B method, you bid time. So there's an
15 accelerant. It's been such a long time. I believe Ina was also
16 done -- no. Ina was a CMAR. Ina was a construction manager at
17 risk. So the contractor did not necessarily bid the time
18 component. So there might have been -- Ruthrauff would have
19 been done quicker in that case.

20 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. And the other item
21 is the I-10 Gila River Bridge --

22 MR. LANE: Uh-huh.

23 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: -- that will be in your
24 district?

25 MR. LANE: It will not be -- no. That is outside

1 my district.

2 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Ted.

4 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5 Rod, you're doing a great job. A lot of
6 construction going on down here. That's great to see.

7 I did have a question. With the diverging
8 diamond, like you said, it's the first of the kind here. It's
9 definitely unique. Have -- since it's been open, how is the
10 safety numbers on that bridge look?

11 MR. LANE: I honestly haven't had a chance to
12 look at the safety numbers on it. It's only been open for a few
13 months.

14 MR. MAXWELL: Right.

15 MR. LANE: So I'm not sure if that's a good
16 enough sampling to get anything, but we'll certainly be
17 notified. We'll certainly keep an eye on it, and it's supposed
18 to be much safer. It eliminates that left turn conflict as you
19 get on there. So it certainly does minimize that.

20 MR. MAXWELL: And I think the more that we see of
21 them, we'll be better off, because people will start getting
22 more used to them than -- especially you have -- the nighttime
23 drivers, the people that are driving after they've worked all
24 day and (indiscernible) be a factor, and as we know, there's a
25 lot of other TIs that probably in the next 10 to 15 years will

1 also be being replaced, and so if we do more of that, I think we
2 need to watch the safety side of it, too.

3 MR. LANE: Yes. And the diverging diamond is
4 kind of a typical one that we look at, whether it's a good
5 option for those -- for those traffic interchange replacements.

6 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you again. Great job on the
7 great projects that are coming to fruition, a lot of them.

8 MR. LANE: Thank you. Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Anybody else? Anyone else?

10 Okay. Before we go on to the next item on the
11 agenda, this board is very good about wanting to listen to the
12 public. So I understand -- let's go back to call to the public.

13 Floyd, we do have an individual standing by?

14 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, we did receive an
15 online request to speak at the start of the meeting, and I -- so
16 what I'd like to do, based upon your opening call to the
17 audience, I would ask that Mr. Raymond Smith, who said he will
18 be contact -- or attending the meeting through phone, to please
19 press star three on your phone to raise your hand, and then the
20 Webex host will unmute your line, and you will have three
21 minutes to make your comments.

22 So, Mr. Smith, will you please raise your hand?

23 WEBEX HOST: Mr. Smith, I have sent a request to
24 unmute your line. You are unmuted.

25 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Smith, are you there?

1 Mr. Smith, your line is unmuted at this time.

2 MR. SMITH: Good morning. This is Mr. Smith.

3 Can you hear me?

4 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, sir. We can. Please go
5 ahead and make your comments.

6 MR. SMITH: Yes. Actually, I was just listening
7 in. I don't have the agenda, and I know that there is that
8 statement on there when I registered. It said stick with the
9 agenda topics, but I appreciate that and -- but I'd like to
10 continue to listen in on the dialogue. And I know that we have
11 some projects within our area, and I don't want to go off topic
12 if I don't have the agenda.

13 So I appreciate the time, and I know that
14 Mr. Jesse Thompson works well with the Nahata Dziil community,
15 and I just wanted to introduce myself. I'm Raymond Smith,
16 Junior. I'm the Navajo Nation Council delegate for the areas
17 around I-40, (indiscernible), Houck, Sanders, which is also
18 known as Nahata Dziil. Anyway (indiscernible) the gentlemen and
19 staff and ladies that are here on the phone with this meeting.
20 Thank you very much.

21 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Smith, this is Floyd
22 Roehrich. That statement pertains to the -- to the board
23 members that they can't deliberate topics that are brought up,
24 but during call to the audience, you have the right to bring up
25 any transportation-related project or discussion or comments

1 that you want. It's not limited to you. That is limited to
2 basically the Board and staff. So if you put in a request
3 because you had something you wish to present to the
4 Transportation Board on any topic, you have the ability to do
5 that.

6 So I will -- now that you know that, I'll give
7 you and we'll restart your three minutes. If you have other
8 comments that you wanted to make, you have the ability to make
9 those, and now is your time.

10 Mr. Smith, are you still there?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Muted again.

12 WEBEX HOST: Mr. Smith, your line is remuted.

13 Yes. There you go.

14 MR. SMITH: Okay. I just got unmuted here.

15 Thank you, sir, for that information.

16 Yes, we do have concerns within our area.

17 There's an exit right there at (indiscernible) Road, and folks
18 are always wanting to have that -- it was the Querino Bridge,
19 and it's been there for -- I guess since the late '30s, maybe,
20 during the time when Route 66 used to go through there, and it's
21 a one-lane bridge, and that bridge is -- you know, it's starting
22 to crack and there's signs of deterioration. And at one time
23 the Arizona DPS had rerouted the traffic, because there was an
24 accident on I-40, and they sent semis across there, and I don't
25 think that bridge is capable of holding all that massive weight,

1 and fortunately, nobody had an accident on that bridge. That's
2 one concern we have, and I brought that our -- Jesse Thompson,
3 the Chair. I think that's who the Chair at the time. I met
4 with him.

5 And the community of Houck has used that road on
6 a daily basis, and they're quite concerned about the safety on
7 the bridge, and they're wondering if -- who owns that bridge,
8 and they're wondering who can help replace that bridge, and how
9 do we get on, you know, the radar for that to be known that
10 there is a concern for safety, because that's a bus route, too,
11 and everybody uses that bridge, and we don't want to close it
12 down unless it's mandated by safety procedures. So that's the
13 main concern that I want to bring forth.

14 And the other one too is the weigh station right
15 there in Sanders, it is a -- it gets congested and it is -- it
16 is dangerous, and we're looking at Exit 320 to improve and to
17 help with the aspects of getting the Arizona Department of
18 Transportation inspection station may be facilitated out there.

19 So with those two, those are the concerns that I
20 have right now, and I will continue to listen in, and I'm glad
21 that I was invited in this meeting. My LDA, (indiscernible)
22 Hardy, who's given me that information. So I appreciate that,
23 gentlemen and ladies. So this time frame, so that's the big
24 concern is that Querino Bridge. I know that I'm working with
25 Navajo Department of Transportation on that, Bureau of Indian

1 Affairs. We're trying to find out who actually owns so that we
2 can address that. So thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, Delegate Smith.
4 Floyd, any others?

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, no. That is all the
6 requests that we have.

7 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Again, thank you for those
8 comments, Delegate Smith.

9 Now we will move on to Item 3, consent agenda.
10 Does any member want any item removed from the consent? If not,
11 do I have a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented?

12 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: So moved.

13 MR. KNIGHT: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion by Richard and second
15 by Gary. Any discussion?

16 All in favor say aye.

17 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

18 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any opposed?

19 Floyd, conduct roll call for board members
20 attending remotely.

21 MR. ROEHRICH: So for the board members remotely,
22 so we can make sure that we captured your vote, for the record,
23 I will ask Ms. Daniels.

24 MS. DANIELS: Aye.

25 MR. ROEHRICH: And Mr. Meck.

1 MR. MECK: Aye.

2 MR. ROEHRICH: The motion passes.

3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion passes.

4 Now we will now move on to the financial report
5 with Kristine Ward, Item 4, for information and discussion only.

6 Kristine.

7 MS. WARD: Good morning. Good morning, board
8 members. So I'm here --

9 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Good morning.

10 MS. WARD: -- to give you your update on the
11 status of the funding that supports the five-year program.

12 Rhett or -- if we could go to the next slide.
13 That's great. Thank you.

14 So year to date, we are 3.7 percent behind
15 forecast for HURF, and what that means in terms of the impact to
16 the program is -- that represents about 16 million below
17 estimate for the impact to the State Highway Fund. So this is
18 not a concern at this point. The issue that is really -- we're
19 seeing some significant variations on are -- besides VLT, which
20 I've reported to you a little last month, we're also seeing in
21 refunds in diesel tax. So you'll see that we had a strong
22 decline in that month that -- this month, seven and a half
23 percent. Moderate growth for the year, but what -- what is --
24 what got us this month was really diesel tax.

25 So if we could move on to the next slide.

1 You'll see that here when we see -- this chart
2 depicts February's revenues, and you can see use fuel taxes
3 running about seven and a half percent behind forecast.

4 Moving on to the next slide.

5 So this will sound a little unusual, but happy
6 holidays, because what you're seeing now for the Regional Area
7 Road Fund depicts the activity for the month of December. So we
8 -- that's where we would see our holiday shopping and so forth.
9 And the common word throughout the entirety of this slide is
10 strong growth for this month. We are running 3.7 percent above
11 forecast year to date. That is an impact to the freeway funding
12 of about \$7.8 million above forecast.

13 If you'd go to the next slide for me, Rhett.

14 So those highlighted items, each one of those
15 highlighted items represents the highest monthly total on
16 record. We experienced some very startlingly high increases for
17 January, over January of 2021. Looking specifically, if you see
18 restaurant and bar, 43 percent of the prior year. Of course, we
19 had COVID hitting the numbers back in 2021, but still, retail,
20 18.3 percent over what we experienced last year.

21 If you'll move on to -- actually, Rhett, if
22 you'll move past this next slide so I can go straight into the
23 federal program.

24 I wanted to give you an update of where we are in
25 terms of the funding since last -- since I reported last month.

1 We did receive -- and actually, this date is incorrect. So
2 we're received our supplementary tables that identify the
3 suballocations. We received those on February 23rd, not March
4 14th. I apologize for that date being incorrect. And what
5 suballocations -- what we needed from those tables in these
6 supplementary tables is they identify suballocations which tell
7 us the amount of funds that are required to be used on various
8 -- on projects in certain areas based on that area's population.

9 The other item that we had been awaiting is the
10 federal budget getting passed, and on Tuesday, President Biden
11 signed the budget that essentially provides the funding for the
12 infrastructure bill. What that means -- if we could go to the
13 next slide, Rhett. Thanks so much.

14 Now what we are waiting for is now that that --
15 that budget has been passed, now FHWA will begin the
16 calculations for the funding levels for each state, and that's
17 known as Obligation Authority. That's what's going to tell us
18 the amount of funding we've got available in Arizona. We're
19 also waiting additional rules and guidance, and when do we
20 anticipate having some of that information? FHWA is estimating
21 that they will have the funding calculations completed by the
22 end of this month. Once they complete those, those
23 calculations, we will then take them and break them down and
24 build them into our federal model. So I anticipate if not by
25 next board meeting, the following, having more thorough figures

1 for you as to any adjustments we can do to the program.

2 With that, I would be happy to take any
3 questions.

4 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Does any member have any
5 questions for Kristine?

6 Ted.

7 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 Kristine, one question on the suballocation. So
9 that's where you learned where some funds have to be expended
10 based on areas and project types and issues like that. Do those
11 funds still get appropriated or used by ADOT, or are those
12 actually funds that are then distributed to the -- to the other
13 areas and the communities for use?

14 MS. WARD: That varies, sir. There are some,
15 like, take, for instance, in MAG, we have some direct
16 suballocations, and in other situations there are areas in which
17 ADOT -- they remain with ADOT. We work with the -- with the
18 local entities, and we program projects in those areas.

19 Does that answer your question, sir?

20 MR. MAXWELL: Yes, ma'am. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any other questions?

22 Thank you, Kristine. I appreciate your report.

23 MS. WARD: Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: And you will keep us updated
25 as things move forward.

1 MS. WARD: Yes, sir. Absolutely.

2 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Again, thank you.

3 We will now move on to Agenda Item 5, with Paul
4 Patane, for discussion and possible action.

5 Good morning, Paul.

6 MR. PATANE: Good morning, Mr. Chair, board
7 members. Thank you.

8 Paul Patane, Multimodal Planning Division, and
9 today I'd like to give you an update on the areas of tribal
10 transportation, some planning activities that we have ongoing,
11 and also the current or the tentative 2023 program, specifically
12 on the public participation component that's just started.

13 Next slide, please.

14 So our first update on the tribal transportation
15 matters is related to the Transportation Working Group. This
16 forum enables federal transportation officials, along with state
17 officials and tribal representatives, to get together to have
18 discussion over transportation related matters.

19 The first -- they had their first -- their second
20 meeting last week on March 10th, and it was represented by -- 12
21 tribes represented at the meeting. The Bureau of Indian Affairs
22 made transportation on the Tribal Transportation Program, along
23 with the Tribal Road Maintenance Program.

24 The next meeting is scheduled for -- on April
25 7th, just to have ongoing communication related to items related

1 to the tribal matters.

2 Next slide, please.

3 This is the upcoming Transportation Traffic
4 Safety Summit and Injury Prevention. This is scheduled for
5 November -- this November 2022. The summit will focus on
6 strategies and resources that prevent reduced tribal injuries
7 and crashes along the tribal routes. Potential representatives
8 at this meeting will be ADOT, Arizona Department of Health
9 Services, Department of Public Safety, the Governor's Office of
10 Highway Safety, and along with the Federal Highway
11 Administration.

12 Next slide, please.

13 It's another forum with -- for the tribal
14 transportation. So the USDOT, FHWA and the Volpe Center. The
15 focus here would be to have a peer exchange with other states on
16 tribal affairs. Some of the states that will be participating
17 is Arizona, New Mexico, Louisiana and Oklahoma. ADOT
18 communications along with the MPD tribal liaisons will be
19 participating in this peer exchange as well.

20 Next slide, please.

21 Before I go on for -- into the planning updates
22 just a couple comments on the tribal liaisons. I think many of
23 you know Ermalinda Gene. She'll be leaving the department April
24 1st, and she'll be replaced by Paula Brown, the new tribal
25 liaison, who started last week.

1 So some of the updates. Some of the required
2 deliverables that we have as an agency and the board. The first
3 one is the update on the Long Range Transportation Plan. The
4 purpose of the plan is to, you know -- the 20-year vision of our
5 needs, the available revenues, along with the investment
6 priorities as far as the state highway system, along with the
7 performance. It's policy oriented rather than project specific,
8 and it's required to be completed every five years, and
9 currently we're -- the solicitation is out on the street, and
10 we're looking to get proposals at the end of this month to
11 evaluate and have a consultant begin to prepare that document.

12 Next slide, please.

13 The next deliverable is we're updating the
14 statewide freight plan. Okay? It's -- again, it's required
15 every five years, and the focus of the freight plan is to get a
16 good handle on short-term and long-term investment strategies
17 for highways and infrastructure. It's a federal requirement,
18 along with the state requirement as well that this plan is
19 completed every five years. It is currently underway, and we
20 anticipate completion toward the fall of this year.

21 Next slide, please.

22 So a little update on the transportation program.
23 Again, the public comment period started today, and it goes
24 through June 2nd, of summer. And so there's -- this will be
25 followed up by -- there will be a public hearing in May, that

1 the public hearing will be -- you can attend virtually or there
2 will be in -- you can -- accommodations to attend in person.
3 This will be held at the Salt River Indian -- Salt River Pima
4 Maricopa Indian Community area.

5 And so there's many ways to participate this year
6 with virtual comments. We have the website there. We have --
7 you can email us. You can send us letters. You know, we even
8 have a bilingual phone set up where we can solicit comments.
9 So, you know, this -- really getting the word out there
10 there's -- you're know, hopefully we'll get a lot of
11 participation this year. And there's the link there for the
12 actual the plan. The tentative program's available. And so
13 we're just looking forward to moving forward with this new plan
14 for this year.

15 That's all I have today.

16 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Does any member of the Board
17 have a question for Paul?

18 We appreciate that, Paul.

19 MR. PATANE: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: And trying to get information
21 out to everyone on there that needs to make comment on the five-
22 year plan. Really appreciate it, and I understand that there's
23 going to be some traveling to different locations regarding some
24 of the concerns that you have. So we do appreciate that. Thank
25 you very much.

1 MR. PATANE: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: We will now move on to Item
3 6, PPAC items, with Paul.

4 Paul.

5 MR. PATANE: Mr. Chair, board members, thank you.
6 We're just going over the items for PPAC that we're requesting
7 approval on. So we're requesting approval on Item 6A for the
8 project modifications for SR-80 at the San Pedro River Bridge.

9 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Is there a motion to approve
10 PPAC modification Item 6A that's presented?

11 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: I'll make the motion.

12 MR. KNIGHT: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Richard motions and then Gary
14 seconds that.

15 Any discussions?

16 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Jesse, if I could.

17 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Richard.

18 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: This is the bridge at
19 Saint David, correct?

20 MR. PATANE: It's at San Pedro River Bridge.
21 Yes.

22 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Yeah, but at the community
23 of Saint David.

24 MR. PATANE: I'm not absolutely sure if it's at
25 Saint David.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It is.

2 MR. PATANE: It is.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

4 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. And this is driven
5 by just the inflationary costs we're looking at?

6 MR. PATANE: Yeah. The estimate was from 2020, a
7 couple years old. So the increased costs caused us to have to
8 increase the budget.

9 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. And do we remember
10 where this is in the five-year plan?

11 MR. PATANE: We're at stage four. I don't have
12 the exact date. I'm assuming it would be 2022.

13 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. Thank you.

14 MR. PATANE: (Indiscernible) fiscal year, but I
15 can follow up, Mr. Searle.

16 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: There's a motion by Richard,
17 second by Gary to approve Item 6A as presented. All in favor
18 say aye.

19 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

20 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any opposed?

21 Floyd, conduct roll call vote for board members
22 attending remotely.

23 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Daniels.

24 MS. DANIELS: Aye.

25 MR. ROEHRICH: And Board Member Meck.

1 MR. MECK: Aye.

2 MR. ROEHRICH: The motion carries.

3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion carries. Thank you
4 for your vote.

5 MR. PATANE: Mr. Chairman, if I could follow up
6 with Mr. Searle's question, yes, the project is currently
7 advertised for June of this year.

8 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. Thank you.

9 MR. PATANE: Yes.

10 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Now going on to -- going to
11 Item 6B to 6G.

12 Paul.

13 MR. PATANE: Yes, Mr. Chair, board members.
14 Requesting Item 6B through 6H, new projects for approval.

15 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Is that 6H or 6G?

16 MR. PATANE: 6B through 6- --

17 MR. ROEHRICH: 6G. It would be 6B through 6G --

18 MR. PATANE: 6G.

19 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay.

20 MR. ROEHRICH: -- is the project.

21 MR. PATANE: Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Is there a motion to
23 approve PPAC projects Items 6B through 6G as presented?

24 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair, I have an question on
25 Item 6G.

1 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Gary.

2 MR. KNIGHT: That's for EV stations, and this is
3 with the BIL grant, I understand. Does that require any
4 matching state funds to do this project?

5 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Knight, that
6 is to fund the study that the Director said is due August 1st.
7 This fund is to develop the statewide implementation plan that
8 ADOT has to submit before we can leverage those funds that were
9 in the IIJA, specifically for EV.

10 So what we want to do is use some of our existing
11 federal aid funds with the state match, that's our normal match,
12 you know, with 94 to 6 percent or whatever, in order to get the
13 study completed, but we've not -- we will not be able to expend
14 any of those funds specifically for EVs until that plan is
15 submitted and approved by the Federal Highway Administration.

16 MR. KNIGHT: Okay. Well, here's my concern: Of
17 course, it says -- under description of the budget items, it
18 says privatization, which I totally agree with, because we don't
19 do studies and build gas stations, and these EV charging
20 stations, I don't think should be -- I don't think that state
21 funds that we could use for highway infrastructure should be
22 used for a study or whatever this is to establish the EV charge
23 stations. That's the private sector that should do that.
24 That's -- in my opinion --

25 MR. HALIKOWSKI: So Mr. --

1 MR. KNIGHT: -- or if the -- or if the federal
2 government wants those stations in place, then they need to pay
3 for it, and I don't think we should have to use taxpayer dollars
4 that should go to the roads to have anything to do with the
5 electrical vehicle charging. That's my concern.

6 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So, Mr. Chairman,
7 Mr. Knight your point is well taken. I'll invite Mr. Byres up
8 to the podium with the Chair's permission. My understanding of
9 the way the EV program works is that we have to do this study by
10 the -- by August of 20- -- by August of this year. Those costs
11 are reimbursable from the federal government, but until we
12 complete the study, we can't apply for the reimbursement. So we
13 won't be expending state money once we're reimbursed for the
14 study, but initially, the outlay does have to come from us.

15 As far as the privatization issue, again, very
16 good points. Certainly points we've been discussing, but it's
17 too soon to tell exactly what model we're going to follow, but
18 certainly, you know, a public-private partnership between the
19 department or between maybe another agency of the state and
20 folks who do this corporation to -- who put, you know, fuel
21 charging stations in might be the way to go.

22 There are other factors that can affect that,
23 because I think a good 46 percent of the charging stations have
24 to go into low income areas, according to the feds. I'm not
25 quite sure how that's going to play out yet. So all of these

1 things are right now, I would say, in the mixer, but Greg,
2 correct me, but I believe we are reimbursed for the costs.

3 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Director, Mr. Chairman,
4 Mr. Knight.

5 MR. KNIGHT: Uh-huh.

6 MR. ROEHRICH: There's a little confusion here,
7 and I want to first clarify that. So the Director was talking
8 about the EV program, and he's absolutely correct on that.

9 Mr. Knight's referencing that the funds to pay
10 for this is coming from a sub item within our five-year program
11 called privatization. Well, it's actually privatization through
12 the P3 program. It's a subprogram that we have of state funds
13 that we use to evaluate projects or to evaluate potential
14 public-private partnership contracts. So in the program,
15 subprogram, it's called a privatization of the P3 fund. So
16 that's what you're looking at.

17 Your discussion on the policy statement is
18 relevant, and it's probably something that we need to address
19 taking forward, but addressing your comment about this
20 privatization, this is just a suballocated source within the
21 five-year program where the funds are coming from, but they are
22 state funds. We are paying for it, and it is eligible to be
23 reimbursed back from the Federal Highway Administration.

24 Now, the larger discussion on policy if we should
25 be doing EVs, that is going to come out during the study process

1 and in discussions with the FHWA, USDOT, moving forward.

2 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So, Mr. Chair, Kristine
3 just sent me a text on state match.

4 Kristine, could you click in? I want to make
5 sure we cover all bases on this thing.

6 MS. WARD: Yes, sir.

7 So to -- Floyd's -- to carry on from Floyd's
8 point, yes, we are -- what's funding the plan is existing
9 federal funds with our state match. When we look to get
10 reimbursed, when we -- after we have filed for that plan, and
11 the EV funds are then available to us, the match on those funds
12 will be 20 percent, as I understand it presently. So it's --
13 that -- that's the information I have today.

14 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: But Kristine, to that
15 point, that match could come from somewhere else, correct? It
16 doesn't have to come from ADOT funds. The private sector could
17 put it in.

18 MS. WARD: That is correct. There -- you could
19 -- the private sector could supply that 20 percent match.

20 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So it's -- again,
21 Mr. Knight, it's -- all this stuff is just in the mixer as we're
22 trying to respond to the feds' deadline of August 2022. It's,
23 as I said before, (indiscernible), but hopefully this clarifies
24 (indiscernible).

25 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you.

1 And as long as we're being reimbursed for those
2 funds. I just -- you know, until we start (indiscernible)
3 funding gas stations and hydrogen fuel stations and all the rest
4 that the private sector is doing now and should be doing, I
5 don't think we should be submitting our state funds, except at a
6 reimbursable fashion.

7 On electric vehicle charge stations, those should
8 be done strictly by the private sector. They're going to reap
9 the profit from selling the electricity to charge the cars.
10 That's the way it's supposed to work. That's the way it should
11 work, and I just can't -- you know, I can't agree with the state
12 having to fund EV stations. It just doesn't make sense. We
13 might be able to provide parking places and where they can put
14 an EV at some rest stops. That's -- you know, that's fine, but
15 to actually fund the EV station itself, I don't think that's
16 something that ADOT should be doing. I think those moneys
17 should be spent on the roads where it belongs.

18 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So to that point,
19 Mr. Chairman, we'll continue to look at all of those.
20 Unfortunately, for rest stops, unless you give it away for free,
21 you can't establish any new charging station there that you're
22 going to ask people to pay for, because we'd run into conflict
23 with federal law of vending a product at the rest stops, which
24 is essentially why we can't allow (inaudible) in general in
25 there. And just to add to the volatility, no pun intended,

1 there's a bill introduced in Congress to appropriate 200 million
2 to study hydrogen. So more on this to come.

3 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, Gary. I think a
5 lot of policies and regulations need to be looked at, as well as
6 the concern presented by Gary here. So we're going to plan to
7 continue that discussion, and I'm assuming that the answer
8 (indiscernible).

9 Thank you, Gary.

10 Richard, you want to be part of the discussion
11 here?

12 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Yes. Just got to simplify
13 things. It was my understanding this plan is to identify areas
14 that need charging stations. Is that --

15 MR. ROEHRICH: No, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Searle.
16 This plan is to -- for ADOT to put together conceptually how we
17 would expect to move forward with using the EV funds that are
18 provided as part of the infrastructure bill. What would be an
19 implementation plan, will it be something that is -- has been
20 identified here from public policy, private industry? You know,
21 how -- what does ADOT intend to do in order to meet the
22 requirement to get EV stations installed along our alternative
23 fuel corridors.

24 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. I would probably
25 echo Gary's sentiment that we shouldn't be in the charging

1 business.

2 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So again, Mr. Chairman,
3 point well taken. We're not in the fuel business, as you know.
4 There are people that sell Big Gulps and Slurpees and hot dogs
5 that know where people want to fill up, and they've been very
6 successful at it. But the federal government has said to the
7 DOTs and the states, We're giving you this amount of money. You
8 guys go come up with a plan on how to put it -- how to build it
9 out to, you know, enable charging stations. So how that gets
10 done is still undecided, but that's essentially what we're
11 supposed to do in the plan.

12 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair.

13 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Ted.

14 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15 So, again, I just want to clarify what this plan
16 is. It's a plan of how we're going to expend --

17 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: (Inaudible.) And people
18 that sell chocolate sundaes.

19 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah, those too.

20 We're -- it's a plan -- we have to devise how
21 we're going to spend the money that they're going to distribute
22 via the bill. That's really what the plan's about. It's not
23 necessarily an endorsement of -- to the point -- it's not
24 necessarily an endorsement of we need this. It's just how we're
25 going to use the funding that will come to us if we have this

1 plan. If we don't have this plan, then none of that funding
2 will come to us.

3 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: But that is correct. We
4 will not be able to use any of those funds.

5 MR. MAXWELL: But it doesn't mean the funds won't
6 be expended in other states.

7 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: That's, again, a point well
8 taken.

9 MR. ROEHRICH: That's up to the USDOTs.

10 MR. MAXWELL: So, I mean, I might have questions
11 about the cost of this plan to develop. It seems like an awful
12 loot for a plan that we're really, my opinion, filling a square,
13 to make sure that Arizona does get its fair share of this
14 funding coming forward, and that's -- I mean, I think that in
15 and of itself is reason to do the plan. But I just hope we're
16 not, again, putting so much cost and expenditure in developing
17 the plan that could maybe be simplified just through the
18 department as well.

19 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: So this is, Mr. Chairman,
20 an issue all the states are dealing with, and we're watching
21 very closely, because we don't necessarily need to re-invent the
22 wheel. We're looking at if other states are coming up with good
23 ideas, we're discussing this in our national organization.
24 We're trying to make sure we do this in a very deliberate,
25 commonsense fashion.

1 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, Director.

3 Other board members for discussion?

4 Gary.

5 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Mr. Chair, as -- with that
6 being said, the -- I would move to approve project items --
7 Agenda Items 6B through 6G.

8 MR. MAXWELL: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: There is a motion by Gary,
10 seconded by Board Member Ted. Any discussion?

11 All in favor say aye.

12 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any opposed?

14 Floyd, conduct roll call vote for board members
15 attending remotely.

16 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Daniels.

17 MS. DANIELS: Aye.

18 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

19 MR. MECK: Aye.

20 MR. ROEHRICH: The motion passes, Board Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Motion carries.

22 Thank you, board members.

23 Now, going on to the next item, airport
24 development.

25 Paul.

1 MR. PATANE: Mr. Chair, board members, I'm
2 requesting approval of Item 6H for your consideration.

3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Is there a motion to approve
4 airport development program project Item 6H as presented?

5 MR. KNIGHT: So moved.

6 MS. DANIELS: So moved.

7 MR. KNIGHT: Take her.

8 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Motion by Jenn.

9 MR. KNIGHT: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Garry is the second then.

11 Any discussion?

12 All in favor say aye.

13 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

14 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any opposed?

15 Floyd, conduct roll call vote for board members
16 attending remotely.

17 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Daniels.

18 MS. DANIELS: Aye.

19 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

20 MR. MECK: Aye

21 MR. ROEHRICH: Motion carries.

22 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion carries, and thank you
23 from all the board members for voting.

24 And moving on to item -- Agenda Item 7, state
25 engineer's report for -- with Greg Byres. Information

1 discussion only.

2 Greg.

3 MR. BYRES: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman,
4 Board Members. Before I get going with what I had on some
5 items, I would like to kind of touch on a couple of things.

6 One, as far as the IIIJA goes or BIL goes, there's
7 a massive amount of discretionary dollars that the Director had
8 spoken about earlier. ADOT has a very well-established grant
9 program that we've put together over the last few years, but
10 it's set up for what we've had in the past.

11 With the 24 new programs coming aboard, we're
12 looking at an awful lot coming through and hitting this grant
13 program, whether it is grants that ADOT is trying to pursue or
14 grants that are being pursued by other agencies or other
15 entities within the state, where they're wanting us to either
16 help submit those grants or provide support for those grants.

17 So what we're doing right now is we're starting
18 to beef up that grant program before we get inundated, rather
19 we're trying to be proactive. So we're already starting that
20 process. So we're projecting that there's going to be at least
21 a few notice of funding opportunities coming out within the next
22 couple weeks, which are going to be extensive. So we're trying
23 to get that done as quick as we can. So that was one thing.

24 The other thing is the Director had also
25 mentioned the smart program that the Governor had -- has

1 initiated and is currently going through the Legislature. That
2 has to be administered through ADOT. So we are also starting to
3 put together how that's going to work if it does pass the
4 Legislature so that we're not behind the eight ball when it gets
5 here. So, again, we're trying to be proactive. That will also
6 fall in line with our grant program since the two are basically
7 tied together. So just wanted to kind of give you guys an idea
8 of what we're doing before things start hitting the fan. So
9 just wanted to put that (inaudible) --

10 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Chairman, Greg, since
11 you're --

12 MR. BYRES: Yes.

13 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: -- clarifying my remarks,
14 there was a question on if the 400 million for I-10 comes
15 through, what are the next steps there?

16 MR. BYRES: So on the 400 million, if we get that
17 money coming in, we already have a plan in hand as far as what
18 we're looking at for trying to initialize projects, but one of
19 the big things that we're looking at is the -- the entire
20 project is getting close to about \$900 million. That's for the
21 entire corridor.

22 So one of the things that we're looking at is at
23 the INFRA grant, which is one of the (indiscernible) that's
24 getting ready to come out, as well as the MEGA project grant
25 program that's getting ready to come out, we're looking at

1 utilizing that \$400 million as a base in which that we can use
2 to try and attract those federal dollars. That way we can --
3 instead of having to piecemeal the project going through, we can
4 have the entire corridor funded, and that way we can actually
5 expedite construction to try and get everything done and in a
6 relatively quick manner. So that's a big push. If we get that,
7 that's going to be huge, because it really will allow us to have
8 a competitive grant application going in.

9 So with that, that was the only other comments I
10 had. I'll go ahead and go through the items that we have. We
11 do have 72 projects under construction. We're right at
12 \$1.896 billion. We have two projects that we finalized in
13 February, worth \$3 million. Fiscal year to date, we have
14 completed 54 projects that have been finalized.

15 So -- and that's the state engineer's report.

16 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Does any member have any
17 questions for Greg?

18 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair.

19 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Ted.

20 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

21 Well, first off, Greg, thank you for, again,
22 emphasizing that -- the grant program that the department has,
23 but also for getting the message out. Here again, and I won't
24 say inundated, but if you're getting a lot of requests coming,
25 that's good to see, because there's so many unknowns, and having

1 people that are experts at the grant process would be great.

2 And second, that I think it's -- I appreciate you
3 pointing out the fact that the 400 million is not the only funds
4 that are going to be needed for I-10. There's going to be more,
5 and this is the opportunity. So much like the tier two EISs,
6 the other things to get things in a position where we -- the
7 projects look more attractive to the federal government then
8 encourage their investment in those projects to get them done,
9 much like SR-189, if we can do the entire I-10 corridor there
10 that we're talking about in one shot instead of having to break
11 it up, it not only will be cheaper. It will be more efficient
12 (indiscernible). So I appreciate the work you're doing on this.

13 MR. BYRES: Thank you.

14 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair.

15 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Gary.

16 MR. KNIGHT: Yeah. I'd also -- I'd just chime in
17 that that also includes widening US-95. So if we can use some
18 of those funds to attract some federal grant dollars, that would
19 be great. I appreciate it. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Moving on to Item 8.

21 Construction projects, for discussion and possible action.

22 Greg.

23 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, board
24 members. We'll start off with Item 8A.

25 You can go to the next slide.

1 I would -- before we get started on that, thank
2 you very much for approving the items that we had in the consent
3 agenda.

4 Item 8A, this is a bridge deck rehab on I-15. We
5 had one bidder on this particular project. The low bid was
6 \$2,384,989. The State estimate was \$1,324,601. The bid was
7 over by \$1,060,388, or 80.1 percent.

8 Because of the fact that we only had one bidder
9 that came through on this, and the substantial overrun of the
10 bids, we are looking at a recommendation of rejecting all bids
11 at this point in time. What we had seen in the discussions with
12 the one bidder is there was a considerable difference in our
13 estimating in the removal of the bridge barrier, the bridge deck
14 overlay cost as well, as well as the temporary barrier that
15 would be going in with the completion of the bridge.

16 We also have several embedded signs and temporary
17 signage that was extensively over what we had estimated. So we
18 are currently taking a look at the design that we already have.
19 This project will be rebid within the next couple of months.

20 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: I make a motion to reject
21 all bids.

22 MR. KNIGHT: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: There's a motion by Richard
24 to reject all bids as recommended and seconded by Board Member
25 Gary. Any discussion?

1 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair, one quick question.

2 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Ted.

3 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

4 So, Greg, with the department coming through and
5 reevaluating its estimate, do you believe there will be an
6 ability to attract more than a single bidder to this project? I
7 mean, it's a tough project because it's, you know, that little
8 segment of I-15 running through the state of Arizona.

9 MR. BYRES: So, Mr. Chairman, Board Member
10 Maxwell, yes, it is extremely remote.

11 MR. MAXWELL: Yes.

12 MR. BYRES: It's hard to get bidders up there.
13 We will try our best to attract as much as we can and simplify
14 the project as much as we can.

15 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

16 DIRECTOR HALIKOWSKI: Chairman, Greg, and to that
17 point, we met with Associated General Contractors last week.
18 Greg, would you maybe just touch base on the phenomenon of
19 you're seeing less bids come in?

20 MR. BYRES: So, yes, Director.

21 One of the things that we're seeing, and you'll
22 see this as I complete my report today, we're seeing more and
23 more projects with fewer bidders. There's several projects
24 that we had last month as well as this month where we only have
25 a single bidder coming through.

1 So one of the things that we're -- we are
2 currently putting together data to try and see how close we are
3 getting to capacities within the state of Arizona, particularly
4 on our bridge projects. One of the things that we're starting
5 to see is the number of bidders dropping off, prices going up,
6 and the lack of competition.

7 And so with that, we need to really take a look
8 and see if there's anything that we can do, but the first
9 thing we need to do is make sure we're going through the data
10 to find out exactly what we've got, how much money we're
11 releasing within any given month, the number of bidders that
12 we have, the types of projects that we're seeing.

13 So we're collecting all of that data, and then
14 we'll take that, kind of sit down -- ATC is going to be a key
15 player with us to try and see if there's a way that we can
16 kind of emphasize competition across the state. So that's --
17 but it is a -- it's becoming very crucial at this point in
18 time.

19 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, Greg.

20 Again, there is a motion by Richard, second by
21 Gary to reject all bids. All those in favors say aye.

22 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any opposed?

24 Floyd, conduct roll call for board members
25 attending remotely.

1 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Daniels.

2 MS. DANIELS: Aye.

3 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

4 MR. MECK: Aye

5 MR. ROEHRICH: The motion carries, Chairman.

6 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Thank you for the
7 vote.

8 Going on to Item B, Greg.

9 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 Board member -- or I'm sorry -- Item 8B is the
11 next one. This is a pavement rehab project on I-19. That
12 runs Valencia Road down to 86. With this we have one bidder
13 for this project. The low bid was \$9,552,118. The State
14 estimate was \$7,357,674. The difference was \$2,194,444, or
15 29.8 percent.

16 What we saw on this was basically an overrun in
17 the cost of -- from what we had estimated on milling. One of
18 the big concerns there is that we are milling over the top of
19 Portland cement concrete paving. So the production rates are
20 fairly slow in producing the milling, as well as prepping the
21 surface for the potential friction course that will be going
22 down. Also, the cost of the friction course itself is fairly
23 extensive. One of the things that we have is instead of it
24 coming from a local source, it will actually be coming all the
25 way from Phoenix due to the amount of work that is being

1 conducted in Tucson -- or the Tucson area.

2 We did review the low bid. We do see it as a
3 responsible and responsive bid, and we recommend award to FNF
4 Construction, Inc.

5 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Is there a motion to award
6 Item 8B to FNF Construction, Inc., as presented?

7 MR. MAXWELL: So moved.

8 MR. KNIGHT: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion by Ted and second by
10 Gary. Any discussion?

11 All in favor say aye.

12 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any opposed?

14 Floyd, conduct roll call.

15 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Daniels.

16 MS. DANIELS: Aye.

17 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

18 MR. MECK: Aye

19 MR. ROEHRICH: The motion carries.

20 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: The motion carries.

21 Going on to Item 8C. Gary. I mean -- sorry
22 about that -- Greg.

23 MR. BYRES: No problem.

24 Mr. Chairman, next item, 8C this is a pavement
25 preservation project on SR-69. With it we actually had five

1 bidders on this project. The low bid was \$2,697,413. The
2 State's estimate was \$3,282,589. The project came in under the
3 engineer's estimate at \$585,176, or under by 17.8 percent.

4 After speaking with the low bidder on this, the
5 differences that we had is the contractor's rate for paving
6 operations was much faster than what we had estimated. It
7 also has a very short haul distance for the millings
8 themselves, and the traffic control costs were much less than
9 what are anticipated.

10 With that, we did finalize the review and find
11 the bid as being responsible and responsive, and we recommend
12 award to Asphalt Paving and Supply, Inc.

13 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Is there a motion to award
14 Item 8C to Asphalt Paving, Inc., as presented?

15 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair.

16 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Gary.

17 MR. KNIGHT: This is my district, so I will
18 recommend approval of Item 8C and award to Asphalt Paving and
19 Supply, Inc.

20 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: I'll second it.

21 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion by Gary and a second
22 by Richard to approve the awarding the contract. Any
23 discussion?

24 All in favor say aye.

25 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any opposed?

2 Floyd, conduct roll call for those board members
3 attending remotely.

4 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Daniels.

5 MS. DANIELS: Aye.

6 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

7 MR. MECK: Aye

8 MR. ROEHRICH: Motion carries.

9 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion carries.

10 Let's go to Item 8D.

11 Greg.

12 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Item 8D, this is drainage repairs on SR-87.

14 This project has some fairly extensive work. We did get three
15 bidders for this project. The low bid is \$768,937. The
16 States's estimate was \$534,860. The difference is \$234,077
17 over the engineer's estimate, or 43.8 percent.

18 One of the things that we -- in speaking with
19 the low bidder on this, the majority of the work for the
20 drainage repairs that have to be conducted here are it's an
21 awful lot of handwork. It is occurring at multiple locations,
22 and in the engineers's estimate we had much higher production
23 rates than what the contractor's anticipating. So that's the
24 major difference of it. We also have items for removal as well
25 as borrow that the contractor's going to have issues with as far

1 as the remoteness of the work. We did find the low bid as being
2 a responsive and responsible bid and recommend award to Combs
3 Construction Company, Inc.

4 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Is there a motion to award
5 Item 8D to Combs Construction Company, Inc.?

6 MR. KNIGHT: So moved.

7 MR. MAXWELL: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion by Gary and second
9 by Ted. All in favor -- any discussion?

10 All in favor say aye.

11 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

12 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Floyd, conduct roll call.

13 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Daniels. Board
14 Member Daniels.

15 Board Member Meck.

16 MR. MECK: Aye

17 MR. ROEHRICH: Motion carries.

18 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion carries.

19 We'll move on to Item 8E, Greg.

20 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 Item 8E, this is a bridge replacement project.
22 We had one bidder on this project. The low bid came in at
23 \$1,335,742. The State's estimate was \$953,665. It's a
24 difference of \$382,077, or 40.1 percent.

25 This bridge is a local project occurring in

1 Graham County. The differences that we saw in the costs of
2 the bids were the clearing and grubbing costs, as well as the
3 removal of the bridge itself. Production rates for the
4 removal were much slower than what we had estimated. We're also
5 looking at a temporary diversion dike that has to be constructed
6 with the removal of the existing bridge. So there's
7 considerations there.

8 We are looking at revisions to the plans to try
9 and bring the bridge a little bit closer to budgeted amounts.
10 At this point in time, with the amount over, Graham County
11 cannot handle the additional costs, which they would be
12 responsible for, so we are recommending rejecting all bids.

13 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: As this is one of my
14 favorite projects, I will make that motion.

15 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay.

16 MR. KNIGHT: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Richard motions and Gary
18 seconds to reject all items as presented. Any discussion?

19 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair.

20 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Ted.

21 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 Yeah. It's -- you know, it's been real
23 interesting in my first year on this board watching this, and
24 you see some of these. As you said, the costs have been going
25 up, and there's been a lot of bids that have come in

1 significantly over. I think the difference between this bid and
2 the one we just approved is that we only did have one bidder.

3 So I appreciate the fact that the idea is to go
4 back, take a look at it, try to make it more competitive, get a
5 couple bidders, because on that last one, which was, again, 40
6 plus percent over cost, too, if you looked at all three bids,
7 they were pretty reasonably in the narrow scope. So it showed
8 that everybody who was bidding on it had the same idea. With
9 only one bidder, it's a little harder to take, and I know, you
10 know, Richard wants to get this project.

11 So I appreciate you continuing to move forward
12 with this and make those adjustments and get it going as fast
13 as possible.

14 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Yeah. I'd like to see
15 it done, but I'd also like it done reasonably, because we're
16 talking a box culvert on the -- on a county road, and I'm just
17 struggling with the cost from day one when we were saying it was
18 going to cost a million dollars. I thought it was too much.

19 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay.

20 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: There is a motion and a
22 second to reject all bids. Any discussion?

23 All in favor say aye.

24 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Floyd.

1 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

2 MR. MECK: Aye

3 MR. ROEHRICH: And, Mr. Chairman, I just want to
4 note that Board Member Daniels has had to leave the meeting. So
5 the motion does pass.

6 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: So noted.

7 Motion carries.

8 Going on to 8F.

9 Greg.

10 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Item 8F, this is roadway improvements, rumble
12 strip improvements particularly. This is on Stockton Hill
13 Road. This is a local project. The -- we had two bidders on
14 this project. Low bid was \$499,605. The State estimate was
15 \$522,362. The low bid was \$22,757 under the estimate, or 4.4
16 percent.

17 There is one contingent item on this. The low
18 bidder does not have the current required licenses and is in
19 the process of procuring. So with that, we did determine the
20 bid is a responsive and responsible bid and recommend award to
21 Nevada Barricade and Sign Company, Inc., contingent upon
22 procuring the appropriate licenses.

23 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: So moved.

24 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Is there a motion and a
25 second?

1 VICE CHAIRMAN SEARLE: So moved.

2 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair, I do have a question.

3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Yeah.

4 MR. KNIGHT: So if -- I looked at the other
5 bid. If he doesn't -- if he's not able to get the licenses,
6 will that automatically go to the second bidder? Or we'd have
7 to rebid it?

8 MR. BYRES: Mr. Chairman, Board Member Knight,
9 at this point in time, if -- he's given 45 days to complete
10 getting his licenses. He is a licensed contractor. He just
11 doesn't have the required license --

12 MR. KNIGHT: For Arizona.

13 MR. BYRES: So -- right. So it's a specialty
14 item. So he just doesn't have that. So in order to approve
15 it, we have to make sure he's licensed properly. But if he --
16 it fails to get that done within the 45 days that we allow, we
17 reject his bid, it goes to the -- to the following bidder.

18 MR. KNIGHT: Would it then come back to us for
19 reapproval for the next --

20 MR. BYRES: It would, because --

21 MR. KNIGHT: Yeah.

22 MR. BYRES: -- the award is -- it's null
23 (indiscernible).

24 MR. KNIGHT: Sure. Okay.

25 MR. BYRES: Null and void.

1 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you. I will second it.

2 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: There's a motion by Richard
3 and seconded by Gary to award Item 8F to Nevada Barricade and
4 Sign Company, Inc. Any discussion?

5 All in favor say aye.

6 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

7 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any opposed?

8 Floyd, conduct roll call vote for board members
9 attending remotely.

10 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

11 MR. MECK: Aye

12 MR. ROEHRICH: Motion carries.

13 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Motion carries.

14 Now going to the last item, Item 9.

15 Suggestions. Suggestions, members will have an opportunity to
16 suggest items they would like to have placed on future board
17 item agenda.

18 Board members, any comments or suggestions for
19 future items?

20 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, I do have two
21 quick items or comments I do want to update the Board on.

22 Just a reminder the next meeting is April 15th.
23 It is in the town of -- the City of Nogales, but we will
24 actually be meeting at Santa Cruz County Complex. So we'll be
25 meeting at the county complex while -- with the board meeting,

1 and again, it will be a simulcast meeting, virtual through Webex
2 and in the person for those who can make the meeting.

3 As Board Member Knight had requested, we'll
4 coordinate with the district as well as Enforcement Compliance
5 Division to get a tour of the Mariposa Port and the 189
6 project.

7 And then I want to follow up on an item that the
8 Board had adopted the locations and dates for this year. August
9 19th board meeting was originally set to be a virtual meeting,
10 but we were asked to see if we could coordinate with the Town of
11 Gilbert facilities. So I've been in contact with the Town
12 Manager's office, and after consulting with -- after them
13 consulting with the mayor, they have offered up the -- their
14 council chambers for the August 19th meeting. So I already
15 briefed the Board Chairman. He asked me to inform the board
16 members, but we'll start (indiscernible) the coordination
17 process as well as updating to the Board's website, but the
18 August 19th board meeting will be -- well -- as well as
19 simulcasted, virtual meeting, but we'll also have the in-person
20 attendants at the Town of Gilbert's Council Chambers.

21 That's what I have for updates at this point,
22 Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Very good.

24 Is there a motion to adjourn the meeting?

25 MR. KNIGHT: So moved.

1 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Gary.

2 MR. MAXWELL: Seconded with a quick closing bear
3 down.

4 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: And second by Ted.

5 All those in favor say aye.

6 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

7 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you for all those in
8 attendance in person today and all those that called in
9 remotely. Again, thank you very much.

10 (Meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
 2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA)
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4 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were reported
 5 by me, TERESA A. WATSON, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified
 6 Reporter, Certificate No. 50876, State of Arizona, from an
 7 electronic recording and were reduced to written form under my
 8 direction; that the foregoing 82 pages constitute a true and
 9 accurate transcript of said electronic recording, all done to
 10 the best of my skill and ability.

11 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of
 12 the parties hereto, nor am I in any way interested in the
 13 outcome hereof.

14 DATED at Phoenix, Arizona, this 6th day of April 2022.

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 /s/ Teresa A. Watson

TERESA A. WATSON, RMR
 Certified Reporter
 Certificate No. 50876

Adjournment

Chairman Jesse Thompson moved to adjourn the March 18, 2022, State Transportation Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m. PST.

Not Available for Signature

Jesse Thompson, Chairman
State Transportation Board

Not Available for Signature

John S. Halikowski, Director
Arizona Department of Transportation