

**STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING
IN PERSON WITH OPTIONAL TELEPHONIC/WEBEX ATTENDANCE
9:00am, January 20, 2023
City of Sierra Vista
1011 North Coronado Drive
Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635**

Call to Order

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

Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Floyd Roehrich, Jr.

Roll Call by Board Secretary, Sherry Garcia

A quorum of the State Transportation Board was present. **In attendance (in person):** Chairman Gary Knight, Vice Chairman Richard Searle, Board Member Jenn Daniels, Board Member Ted Maxwell, Board Member Jenny Howard. **In attendance (via WebEx):** Board Member Jesse Thompson, Board Member Jackie Meck. There were approximately 53 members of the public in the audience on-line and approximately 35 members of the public in the audience in person.

Opening Remarks

Chairman Knight 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

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BOARD MEETING

VIA WEBEX AND IN PERSON AT:

City of Sierra Vista
1011 North Coronado Drive
Sierrva Vista, Arizona 85635

January 20, 2023
9:00 a.m.

REPORTED BY:

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

PREPARED FOR:
ADOT - STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Perfecta Reporting
(602) 421-3602

(Certified Copy)

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

6
7 PARTICIPANTS:

8 Board Members:

9 Gary Knight, Chairman
Richard Searle, Vice Chairman
10 Jenn Daniels, Board Member
Ted Maxwell, Board Member
11 Jenny Howard, Board Member
Jesse Thompson, Board Member (via Webex)
12 Jackie Meck, Board Member (via Webex)

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CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

SPEAKER: PAGE:

In-Person Speakers

Carolyn Umphrey, Councilmember, City of Sierra Vista..... 6

Mark A. Rodriguez, Councilmember, City of Sierra Vista..... 7

Ann English, Supervisor, Cochise County..... 10

Don Huish, Mayor, City of Douglas..... 12

Nancy Smith, Mayor, City of Maricopa..... 14

Karen Lambertson, SVMPO Director, Sierra Vista/Cochise
County..... 17

Tera Dugan, Resident/City Advocate, City of Maricopa..... 18

Suzanne Harvey, Town Manager, Town of Huachuca City..... 20

John Moffatt, Director Infrastructure Policy, Southern AZ
Leadership Council..... 23

Randy Heiss, Executive Director, SEAGO..... 25

Virtual and Telephonic Speakers

Brianna Klatt, Community Member..... XX

Jennifer Thompson, Controller/Townsite Manager,
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Commission Governance..... 31

Bruce Bracker, County Supervisor, City of Nogales..... 33

Samuel Deckard, Resident, City of Yuma..... XX

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1 (Beginning of excerpt.)

2 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Moving on to call to the
3 audience. I'd like to remind you that telephonically and Webex,
4 everyone will be muted when they call in to the meeting. When
5 your name is called, provide your -- to provide your comments,
6 you will indicate your presence by virtually raising your hand
7 using your phone keypad or through the Webex application. The
8 Webex host will guide you through the unmuting and muting
9 process following the instructions included with the meeting
10 agenda.

11 In person, this is the opportunity for the
12 members of the public to discuss items of interest to the Board.
13 Please fill out a Request For Public Input Form and give it to
14 the board secretary if you wish to address the Board at this
15 time.

16 I will remind everybody that there is a
17 three-minute -- in the interest of time, there will be a
18 three-minute time limit imposed. So please keep your remarks to
19 three minutes. If you run a little over, Floyd will be sure and
20 remind you.

21 Floyd, if you will continue with the call to the
22 audience.

23 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. We have a
24 number of requests to speak in person as well as some online.
25 So we will start with the requests in person, and our first

1 speaker is Ms. Carolyn Umphrey.

2 MS. UMPHREY: Thank you. Good morning. I'm
3 sorry. Good morning, Chairman Knight, members of the Board.
4 I'm so happy to see you all here. Well, most of you in
5 attendance and the other two online.

6 It's very special to have you here today,
7 especially since it has been a while since we've been able to
8 meet in person like this and us host you here in Sierra Vista.
9 So it's a huge honor to be a host of one of the first meetings
10 this year, especially for Board Member Howard, being your first
11 meeting. I think that will make it more memorable in general.
12 And we appreciate you making the drive down, because I know
13 you've come from near and far, and it's a real treat to have you
14 all here this morning.

15 And for those that -- who were able to attend the
16 reception, we really appreciate you taking the time to look at
17 all of our local projects and get familiar with some of the
18 issues we're facing here locally, and if -- I know you're super
19 busy. If you are able to take your time, seeing more of Sierra
20 Vista after your meeting today, we have -- and I know you
21 probably hear this all the time, but I mean it. I mean it this
22 time. We have some of the best restaurants, and the people that
23 run those restaurants are local business owners. There's no
24 better service than you'll see here in Sierra Vista.

25 And if you go down Fry Boulevard to get lunch,

1 you'll also see what we've done with our HURF Exchange dollars
2 and redeveloping our (inaudible), and you'll have an opportunity
3 to see what an impact it's made on our community and right
4 outside Fort Huachuca, and it's a lot of people's first
5 impression. So we really appreciated all that. And with that I
6 just want to thank you once again, and I hope to see you not in
7 the not too distant future. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

9 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mr. Mark
10 Rodriguez.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Good morning, you all. Thank
12 you. Welcome out of towners as well. Pleasure to meet you last
13 night. I hope you guys stay as long as possible and visit as
14 often as possible as well.

15 I know this is a one-way communication when it
16 comes to call to the public. I'm kind of familiar with it, so I
17 don't expect any answers, but I do hope you'll address our
18 concerns throughout your meeting today.

19 As you know, I'm a councilman selected by the
20 people. So today I'm speaking for them, and as one of them, I'm
21 not sitting up there today. And I'd be remiss if I did not
22 mention State Route 90, the improvements that are much needed
23 down here in Sierra Vista. They are definitely long overdue.
24 It's been years since we've seen any kind of work down there,
25 and that road has just deteriorated to a horrible state. I

1 mentioned last night I hope that some of you take the drive down
2 to our hospital and back to see for yourself firsthand.

3 We have had other successful projects in the area
4 that are done by ADOT, very well -- you know, good job, but
5 State Route 90 has not been addressed at all, and so it's become
6 a safety issue as well. Motorcycles, it's the worst place to
7 ride a motorcycle. I ride a motorcycle myself. (Indiscernible)
8 my motorcycle tires, they get caught in those grooves, it will
9 throw you off into a different lane. So it's not very safe at
10 all, and bicycles are even worse.

11 Our first responders. So that is the only way to
12 the hospital in our road -- in our -- in our community. So I
13 used to work for Whetstone Fire, and I was a volunteer
14 firefighter there, and I used to drive EMSs to the hospital. So
15 I know firsthand that's the worst way to take somebody, not only
16 for people riding. Trying to -- in the back of the ambulance,
17 trying to do an IV, trying to take blood before they get to the
18 hospital, or for that patient that's already seen some traumatic
19 event that they go to the hospital. Now they have to go over
20 that road. So it's become pretty bad.

21 On the tourism side of things, if you come from
22 Tombstone and Bisbee, that's the first thing you see is that
23 road, and it's not a very good welcome into our town coming from
24 that way, so that definitely affects us.

25 I understand back in April there was some \$10.6

1 million that was supposed to get that fixed from Industry
2 Drive/Campus to Moson, and that was supposed to go out bid, and
3 the work was supposed to started this year, but what I
4 understand, that is not the case, because what it sounds like,
5 there is more money now for a bigger project to go all the way
6 up to the Border Patrol station, which is great, but I do think
7 the emphasis needs to be on Campus Drive to Moson Drive, and
8 when that project does get done, it needs to start south and
9 come up. That's the most critical part.

10 From the Border Patrol checkpoint down to Kansas
11 Drive there's nothing wrong with that road. On the (inaudible)
12 they can reflectors in the middle of those -- of that bypass.
13 We've had some head-on collisions there. People cross the line
14 very easily. There's nothing stopping you from going across
15 that line. If anything, that could be added with the funds that
16 are there, but this project definitely needs to start from the
17 bottom up and go that way.

18 I looked all through the five-year plan. I
19 looked at the Southcentral District 3 projects. I didn't see
20 anything mentioned about State Route 90 at all. The last thing
21 I saw was back in 2018. So if this is going to happen, please,
22 I'd ask somebody to update us. We keep our people informed.
23 We're asked daily about this road as council people, so -- and
24 we have no answer other than to say that's an ADOT thing, that's
25 a State thing, and I'm tired of giving that answer.

1 I really need some solid answers and a timeline
2 that I can give people and say, here's the money, here's where
3 it's going to go, here's where it's going to start, here's where
4 it's going to end. I really need answers like that for our
5 whole community, not just for people in Sierra Vista, people
6 from Palominas, from Huachuca City. They all come into our
7 community and use our facilities here. So it's important for
8 everybody. I would love to know -- along with the timeline,
9 this was our direct conduit, right, for those updates? Who can
10 we contact and say, hey, where's this at? All we have now is
11 emails, and that's doesn't do us very much.

12 So I appreciate your time. Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Mark.

14 MR. ROEHRICH: Next speaker is Supervisor Ann
15 English.

16 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Not that we can address items
17 from the call to the public, but I think most of your questions
18 will be answered today.

19 MS. ENGLISH: Good morning, Chairman and members
20 of the Board. As you said, I'm Ann English with the Cochise
21 County Board of Supervisors, and first I want to give thanks for
22 the maintenance that's going on here in the county. We get
23 excited when we see you filling cracks in the road, thinking
24 that perhaps there's going to be a better solution coming later.

25 Working on the bridge in Saint David, there has

1 been progress, you know, and there always is. You're working on
2 the tunnel near Bisbee. So thank you for those.

3 Today, though, I want to concentrate on we are a
4 border county. We do have two ports. We have a port at Naco,
5 and we have a port in Douglas, and we have a pending port five
6 miles out of Douglas. I want to thank the Department of
7 Transportation for finally agreeing to study that mile-long road
8 that needs to go from Highway 80 into the port, but I'm also
9 going to ask you to start looking at the roads that lead away
10 from the ports that exist now in Douglas and in Naco.

11 I think if you look, the road leading to Naco is
12 a county road. Is there anywhere else that there's only a
13 county road that leads to a port? And so I believe that's an
14 unfair situation, and I don't want it to develop in Douglas so
15 that it's a county road that goes from Highway 80 to the new
16 commercial port. I don't think that's appropriate, and I want
17 you all to seriously consider both of these. There are two
18 roads into the Naco port. Both of them are county roads. And
19 so we're asking you to look at that and see if that isn't a
20 possibility.

21 We've taken a big -- I won't say hit, because, of
22 course, you know, travel in Cochise County is important to those
23 of us that live here, but Davis Road is becoming a major
24 thoroughfare, especially for the commercial traffic, and that's
25 a county road also. And so we need for you to be looking ahead

1 at those roads that serve not only the county, but the state,
2 and help us in a better way to -- to make sure that those roads
3 are safe and that we are -- we're doing what we can to make
4 traffic go as smoothly as possible, because every industry right
5 now is looking at logistics. How can we get here the quickest,
6 the fastest, the safest?

7 And so we're looking to you for help. We will do
8 our part. We want to partner with you, but sometimes we think
9 that we get the heavier share of the burden, because we don't
10 have the numbers that exist in Queen Creek or Maricopa or
11 Chandler, but we want you to -- in fact, that's one of the
12 reasons I left you a pen and a symbol of Cochise County. I want
13 you to be reminded where we are in the state and that we have
14 thousands of miles of roads that serve not only us, but the
15 people who come through us in order to get to you wherever you
16 live in Arizona. So thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, (indiscernible).

18 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mr. Don Huish.

19 MAYOR HUIISH: I'll apologize up front for
20 reading, but I'll get through it quicker, I hope.

21 Welcome, Chairman Knight and Board Members. Good
22 morning. My name is Donald Huish, and I am the Mayor of the
23 city of Douglas. As you're aware, the General Services
24 Administration is spending \$216 million to design and build the
25 new port of entry on 80 acres of land that the City of Douglas

1 is donating to the federal government. This new port located
2 some five miles to the west of the current crossing requires
3 construction of all the related infrastructure, water,
4 wastewater, electric, broadband, natural gas, and of course, a
5 new connector road that Mrs. English referred to up to Highway
6 80. Let there be no doubt that the combined federal, state and
7 local investment is the largest single investment in our
8 community in generations and a great economic impact for the
9 entire binational region.

10 Just last week ADOT informed us that the notice
11 to proceed for the design concept report and the environmental
12 compliance with the new connector road has been given, which we
13 thank you very much. This connector road will cover only 1.5
14 miles, but this short road will be the gateway for over
15 \$4 billion worth of goods and over 60,000 trucks and two-way
16 traffic. The importance of this project cannot be overstated.

17 The State of Arizona just awarded an \$8.9 million
18 grant to the City that will be applied toward the construction
19 and costs of the water/wastewater infrastructure. While the DCR
20 will take some 18 months, and once completed, we will be working
21 with you and our Congressional delegation and other possible
22 funding sources to pay for the construction of the connector
23 road.

24 Our efforts to coordinate with Mexico for the
25 investments that will be required on the Agua Prieta side to

1 marry up with the new investment made on the U.S. side continue
2 with great successes. Just two days ago we received
3 confirmation that the land needed for construction on the new
4 Mexican customs facility has been completed in Mexico City.

5 Work continues of the easements for the connector
6 road and the border, the Mexican Highway 2, about 2.5 miles.
7 And finally, the Sonoran Department of Infrastructure and Urban
8 Development is close to finalizing the master plan for the
9 Mexican inspection facilities. GSA has also already issued
10 three concept designs for the new port, commercial port of
11 entry.

12 I wanted to take this opportunity to express my
13 and the City of Douglas's gratitude to Director John Halikowski.
14 We've been informed that he is retiring after 13 years as the
15 head of ADOT. We can't thank you enough, Director, for your
16 personal interest and commitment, and to advancing the needs of
17 Douglas and Arizona as a whole. We also are a very excited to
18 work with new Director Jennifer Toth. Know that you're always
19 welcome in Douglas.

20 I thank you for your attention. I'll be happy to
21 answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Mayor.

23 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mayor Nancy
24 Smith.

25 MAYOR SMITH: Good morning. Thank you very much.

1 Chairman Knight, Board Members, a particular welcome to our
2 brand-new board member that represents our region. Jenny, thank
3 you very much for being here. We appreciate the ADOT staff
4 that's here as well. And my congratulations, too, to Director
5 Halikowski.

6 Normally I'm here -- first, let me say I'm the
7 mayor of the city of Maricopa. I think you all know that, and
8 you can tell by my presence at these meetings that
9 transportation, and in particular, 347 is my number one
10 priority. This is critical to our city and very critical to the
11 health of our families, as I mentioned in my last meeting.

12 I do want to thank the ADOT staff. I requested a
13 meeting on safety for 347, and we had that meeting. It was very
14 resourceful, and we are expecting a road safety analysis being
15 done in the next two to three months, and we're looking forward
16 to the data that comes out of that. So I appreciate the ADOT
17 staff for their attention to that detail.

18 Normally when I'm up here speaking, I'm speaking
19 in regards to the city of Maricopa because that's who I
20 represent. However, with the recent closure of I-10, it's
21 become obvious to me I should be speaking to it as a regional
22 solution for our area of the state of Arizona.

23 When I-10 had its significant closure this past
24 week, a lot of traffic was routed down 347. Think about it. If
25 you're moving -- if you want to move from the east side of the

1 state of -- of the state and/or the midsection of the state,
2 even in natural traffic, going to the city of Yuma, going to
3 California, going to anywhere in between I-10 and California,
4 you're using 347 more likely if you're in that middle region.
5 So it's a regional problem, and I think we also need to start to
6 look at it from a regional solution and how does -- how do we
7 get the support from ADOT.

8 That backup created a two-hour backup, which is
9 probably about a 30-minute increase over our normal backups when
10 we have accidents and incidences on 347. So it was a
11 significant problem.

12 When ADOT staff was at our meeting for safety, we
13 talked about what does it take to get on the five-year plan?
14 And the criteria that was shared with me was, to me, stifling.
15 It was not sufficient. It's not deep enough. It doesn't look
16 and account for unique, concerning aspects of each community.
17 And what I'm talking about, in the case of 347, it doesn't
18 consider 347 as a regional transportation solution, and it
19 doesn't consider what I shared with you last time, that 76
20 percent of our families use 347 to go to and from work every
21 day, and if you remember, and for -- oh, let me just finish this
22 one statement.

23 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes. Please finish.

24 MAYOR SMITH: Thank you.

25 And just for Board Member Howard's benefit, in

1 November I used the example where there were three weeks where
2 eight times, eight days during that three-week period, 347 was
3 shut down for a significant amount of hours. Two deaths in two
4 separate incidences, and families are suffering because they
5 can't get home to their kids. This is a huge problem, and I --
6 it is my number one priority, and you'll be hearing from me a
7 lot. What more can I say? Thank you very much.

8 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Mayor Smith.

9 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Ms. Karen
10 Lamberton.

11 MS. LAMBERTON: (Inaudible) dinner from last
12 night.

13 Good morning, Board Chair Knight and Vice Chair
14 Searle and Board Members, and a special welcome, too, to Deputy
15 Director Weiss from ADOT here. I'm Karen Lamberton. I'm the
16 director of the Sierra Vista MPO, and welcome to the city of
17 Sierra Vista. They are one of our jurisdictions, and we partner
18 with Cochise County and the town of Huachuca City.

19 I just wanted to take this opportunity to
20 publicly thank ADOT for your support of the regional planning in
21 the work that we do, both in their staffing and for the local
22 public agencies. They have been an amazing set of people that
23 we work with in ADOT. Especially appreciate Mark Hoffman, who
24 is our liaison, and he has been extraordinarily helpful and we
25 wanted to acknowledge that here.

1 And we also appreciate ADOT sharing with us some
2 of their scarce resources. They have many needs, and they share
3 them with the regional governments, and so we're able to work
4 together on the federally functionally-classed network, which,
5 you know, moves people in through our state, and it's really
6 great. So I want to just take that opportunity to share that
7 with you.

8 We're so hopeful. I think the -- ADOT is looking
9 at some of the new funding that's come from the reauthorization
10 bill and ways to partner with the regional governments as we
11 work with our local agencies to meet those needs to move
12 transportation around. So I just wanted to express thanks for
13 that, and with that, I'm going to sit down, but you're always
14 welcome to come down and we'll tour you around. Thanks so much
15 for your service.

16 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Karen.

17 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Ms. Tera
18 Dugan.

19 MS. DUGAN: Good morning. I presented before you
20 in -- when you had come to Maricopa, and we appreciate that you
21 came to see us. I don't wear any badge. I don't work for
22 anybody. I'm a resident of Maricopa.

23 And I'd like you to take a little drive with me
24 last Thursday morning. The mayor kind of alluded to it, but
25 unprecedented. Our biggest stretch of Interstate 10, we had not

1 one, not two, but three semi accidents, including five
2 fatalities, from the 202, which is a wonderful new option for
3 our semi drivers, all the way down to Riggs Road. That meant
4 that all of these people were looking for a detour, and a lot of
5 them came to State Route 347.

6 So as a resident of Maricopa, the first thing you
7 do in the morning when you want to commute is you go to
8 Facebook. Social media is our best traffic information, and my
9 post that morning read something like: Today's the day to stay
10 home. Don't go in. Go in late. And if you choose to accept
11 this Mad Max assignment, put on your patience panties, pop in
12 the play list and rock out, because you're going to need it.

13 It took me an hour and a half to make a 45-minute
14 drive in to Gilbert morning, but my commute was nothing compared
15 to the people coming off of Interstate 10. At Riggs Road, as
16 far as your eye could see, both east and west, trucks and
17 traffic being routed off of Interstate 10 to the 347.

18 And as Mayor Smith stated, the 347 isn't really
19 looked at as an arterial, but let's think about it. It goes
20 down to State Route 238 to Yuma. Actually goes to Interstate 8.
21 Our dairy farm's located right off Highway 84, very close to
22 Interstate 8.

23 Those people had this -- as we get to the point
24 to where hopefully you're going to get that all widened, it
25 would be a much better option for all of these semis and cars

1 and everything that would be on there. So not only is the 347
2 important for the 77,000 plus of us that live in Maricopa, but
3 the rest of the state. This is an important state route for
4 them as well, especially in a situation like this that we really
5 hope never happens again, but we all know that the way drivers
6 are, it's -- we'll have something like that.

7 So I ask you to consider that when you're
8 thinking about the 347. It's about everyone in Arizona that
9 travels Interstate 10 that the 347 be available. The last time
10 I invited you to come down on a Sunday and stay at Harrah's, and
11 we'd take you to dinner, and to leave in rush hour in the
12 morning. My offer still stands. This time I suggest maybe come
13 on a Friday at 3:00 and drive in to Maricopa, and we've got lots
14 of great places to take you to eat, and we'd love to have you
15 come down. Thank you again for allowing me to speak.

16 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you for your comments.

17 MR. ROEHRICH: Next speaker is Ms. Suzanne
18 Harvey.

19 MS. HARVEY: Good morning, Chairman and members
20 of the Board. Thanks for being here. We really do appreciate
21 you coming down to our region.

22 I'm Suzanne, and I'm the town manager for the
23 town of Huachuca City, which you all passed through getting
24 here. You might have missed it if you blinked. We're a very
25 small town, but we are the entryway into the Sierra Vista area.

1 I first wanted to thank ADOT for their
2 partnership of the HURF Exchange project, by putting emergency
3 (inaudible) signal on the highway at School Drive where our
4 first responders have to get out there when they're responding
5 to emergencies. It's made it much safer for the first
6 responders. Our fire and police are very grateful to have it
7 there. It also makes it safer for the folks that tend to go a
8 little fast as they're heading out towards the Border Patrol
9 station.

10 On the subject of Highway 90, we're looking
11 forward to partnering with the SVMPO and ADOT on the future
12 corridor study. I think some of the other folks have talked
13 about how important Highway 90 is, and it goes right, straight
14 through the center of our little town. It's important to the
15 region. It's connects us, Sierra Vista, Fort Huachuca, the
16 unincorporated area of Whetstone to I-10.

17 It also provides access to important points in
18 our town, to include the elementary school, which feeds -- you
19 know, a lot of the kids go to our school that don't live
20 necessarily right in our town. So they're coming in, the buses
21 are coming in on that highway. It also provides access to two
22 major employers in our town, Coca-Cola Swire, Grasshopper
23 Landscaping, and to the Huachuca City landfill, which serves big
24 waste haulers providing services throughout the county. So
25 those are those big old trucks coming into our landfill. That's

1 a lot of traffic on that piece of the highway.

2 We do have some concerns with pedestrians moving
3 on the highway. We have a low income housing complex on the
4 west side, directly across from one of the busiest Circle Ks in
5 the state. Oftentimes some of the elderly and disabled that
6 live in that housing complex get stuck trying to cross the
7 highway to get to the Circle K.

8 We don't have a grocery store in our town, so a
9 lot of folks use that Circle K to go buy food, as well as a
10 dollar store that we have in town. But I've seen it time and
11 time again where we've got someone with a walker or with one of
12 those little scooters, and they're trying to get across the
13 highway, and because there's so much traffic -- there's two
14 lanes on each side -- they get stuck in the middle. And while
15 we have not had any fatalities and are so grateful for that,
16 there's been a lot of near misses, and I see it. Our residents
17 tell us about it. It's a little scary piece, and we really hope
18 to partner with the SVMPO and ADOT try to make that a safer
19 place for the residents. They are going to cross regardless.
20 We need to make it safer for them to do so.

21 Also, I'd like to say that sometimes the smallest
22 of projects can have a huge impact, especially for little
23 communities like ours. For instance, with ADOT's help, we were
24 able to get our roads the appropriate federal functional
25 classification, which makes them then eligible for federal

1 funding for future potential improvements. We are really
2 grateful for that help. Small communities like mine don't have
3 a lot of people, and a lot of staff and a lot of money, and we
4 couldn't do it without it.

5 In closing, we appreciate the work that you do,
6 and we see the impact it has on the quality of life and the
7 economic development in our region. I know that you face a lot
8 of challenges, and you don't have a lot of time, but next time
9 you come down, please stop in Huachuca City and let me show you
10 around. Thanks.

11 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: (Inaudible.)

12 MR. ROEHRICH: Next speaker is Mr. John Moffatt.

13 MR. MOFFATT: Good morning, Chair, Board Members.
14 I'm John Moffatt. I'm the infrastructure policy director for
15 Southern Arizona Leadership Council. I'm going to read my
16 comments so I don't get billed by Floyd. Try to move through
17 this quickly.

18 I'm here to talk the about the Sonoran corridor.
19 ADOT's getting ready to start the tier two study for that -- for
20 that corridor. It has some tremendous impacts on all of
21 southern Arizona; the traffic coming across the border, as we
22 just heard from Douglas, but we also have it in Nogales.

23 We would like to encourage ADOT and the Board to
24 begin considering funding for the segment of independent utility
25 between Tucson International Airport and the Tech Park, U of A

1 Tech Park in the upcoming five-year facilities construction
2 plan. This segment is by far the greatest short-term benefit
3 for the region.

4 Following are some facts that support the growing
5 need. First of all, the airport is projecting passenger traffic
6 growth that will exceed 7 out of the 10 optimal terminal
7 operational procedures -- parameters by 2030. So they're
8 undertaking a major planning effort right now, which includes
9 access to the airport.

10 Second, the airport has 3,000 acres that are
11 being planned for commercial development, all adjacent to the
12 Sonoran corridor alignment. So that's going to drive a lot of
13 demand. The Sonoran corridor creates a more efficient route
14 from the airport to the east and the south, especially if State
15 Route 210, which is already being planned and executed, and
16 State Route 410, which is the Sonoran corridor, are connected.
17 There's about a three-mile connection there on Alvernon that
18 would be very beneficial to the airport but also to the
19 logistics development around there.

20 In the past two years, we've had commercial
21 development exceed 4 million square feet within three miles of
22 that corridor. So we'd like to make sure we continue to address
23 that. We have 700 homes planned out by El Dorado Holdings along
24 the Sonoran corridor alignment on Alvernon. The Lincoln
25 Properties is developing a million square foot industrial park

1 just north of the planned alignment. Now, these are all current
2 projects. It's already started and -- starting to be in the
3 ground.

4 There's a master planning process for State Trust
5 land between I-10 and I-19. There are 21 sections of State
6 Trust land touched by the Sonoran corridor that can be very
7 beneficial to that.

8 Missed. Sorry. One -- a couple more things.
9 I'll be very brief.

10 The commercial and residential development in the
11 area can add \$32 billion of economic impact to the southern
12 Arizona region. So we feel there's some great benefit. So we
13 encourage you to go try to work to get that into years four and
14 five of the plan. Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, John.

16 MR. ROEHRICH: Next speaker, Mr. Randy Heiss.

17 MR. HEISS: Good morning, Chairman Knight, Board
18 Members, ADOT staff. For the record, my name is Randy Heiss,
19 and I'm the executive director of the Southeastern Arizona
20 Governments Organization, otherwise known as SEAGO. We are
21 ADOT's planning partner for the non-urbanized area of the
22 southeastern corner of the state.

23 Welcome back to the SEAGO region. I promise not
24 to take too much of your time this morning. Just want to point
25 out that the Arizona-Mexico border is about 370 miles long.

1 Roughly a third of that lies within the SEAGO region. SEAGO
2 region's home to about half of the -- of Arizona's eight ports
3 of entry and about 90 percent of the commercial vehicles, and
4 approximately 92 percent of the trade value crossing the
5 Arizona-Sonora border passes through a port of entry somewhere
6 in the SEAGO region, and as a result, it's really hard to
7 overstate the importance of international trade to the economy
8 of southeastern Arizona.

9 Those of you who have served on the Board for a
10 bit will recall my persistence and advocacy for the funding for
11 State Route 189 in Nogales, and we remain grateful that ADOT was
12 able to somehow work some miracles and get that project funded,
13 constructed, and now we have many, many trucks, 1,600 trucks a
14 day passing over that project.

15 So in the last few years, our focus has really
16 shifted to the eastern corner of our region for another port of
17 entry project, which you've heard spoken of here tonight -- this
18 morning. City of Douglas and their two-port solution will
19 include the renovation of the existing port of entry and a new
20 facility four and a half miles west of the city. GSA's now
21 allocated 400 million for that two-port solution, and we're
22 especially grateful for this (inaudible) approval of the
23 expedited -- excuse me -- environmental studies and DCR and
24 final design for the facilities that will enable that port to be
25 constructed west of the city, and also become the ultimate

1 connection to the Highway 80 from the port.

2 According to a working paper produced by our
3 local economist, Dr. Robert Carrera (phonetic), once
4 operational, the two-port solution is projected to have a
5 \$10 million positive GDP impact in its first year of operation,
6 and in subsequent years, the impact is projected to be about
7 20 million annually. Based on these projections, if the total
8 project costs of that connector road turns out to be a little
9 bit more than 15 million, you get that return on investment in
10 less than two years of operation. So what a great opportunity.
11 Thank you for doing that.

12 But as you well know, the next problem is finding
13 money for construction of the facility, and we have heard just a
14 few of the competing priorities here already with the speakers
15 this morning.

16 I'm almost done, Floyd. Thanks for your
17 patience.

18 So as part of a -- it's very difficult for you
19 guys to program these priorities, right? So as part of our
20 larger efforts spearheaded by the RTAC on November 18th, SEAGO
21 executive board approved a package of \$27 million priority
22 projects to be funded with an appropriation for the fiscal year
23 '24 general fund. We hope that \$9 million is awarded out of
24 that package to assist you in facilitating that decision to move
25 this project into the five-year plan.

1 Finally, I too wanted to welcome our newest board
2 member, Ms. Jenny Howard. I'm confident she'll do just an
3 amazing job of representing Graham County, as Board Member
4 Searle is doing for the rest of our region.

5 So thank you for allowing me to speak and run
6 over time a little bit this morning, and drive safely back to
7 your communities.

8 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Randy.

9 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, that's the last
10 in-person speaker request. We'll go to the online.

11 Our next speaker is Ms. Brianna Klatt.
12 Ms. Klatt, please raise your hand.

13 WEBEX HOST: Just a reminder, please press star
14 three on your mobile device to raise your hand.

15 MR. ROEHRICH: Bryce, I don't see any hand
16 raised; is that correct?

17 WEBEX HOST: Yeah. I don't see any hand raised
18 on my end as well.

19 MR. ROEHRICH: Thank you.

20 Mr. Chairman, moving on to the next request. The
21 next request is Ms. Jennifer Thompson.

22 Ms. Thompson, please raise your hand.

23 WEBEX HOST: Ms. Thompson, I have requested to
24 unmute your line, and you are now unmuted.

25 MS. THOMPSON: Can you hear me?

1 WEBEX HOST: We can hear you.

2 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, ma'am. We can. Please make
3 your comments.

4 MS. THOMPSON. Okay. Good.

5 Good morning, everybody, and good morning
6 Chairman Knight and members of the Board. I've spoken several
7 times, but for those of you new to this, I'm Jennifer Thompson,
8 and I'm the controller and townsite utilities manager for
9 Freeport-McMoRan in Bagdad, which is located in Yavapai County,
10 about an hour northwest of Wickenburg.

11 First of all, I'd like to congratulate Director
12 Halikowski on the retirement announcement. We wish you well,
13 and thank you for your many years of service to the State of
14 Arizona, and I'm glad I got to meet you in person.

15 Congratulations and welcome to incoming Director
16 Toth and Board Member Jenny Howard. I spent several years
17 living in Graham County, so it's nice to have that connection.
18 And thank you for your willingness to serve the state, and I
19 look forward to working with you both.

20 As we enter the new year, we continue to work
21 with ADOT to develop the State Route 97 reconstruction and to
22 look to a new round of federal grants to match the investment
23 committed by the Arizona Legislature and Freeport.

24 And just to give a little bit of background,
25 State Route 97 is the road that cuts off from US-93, which is --

1 goes from Wickenburg up to the Kingman area, and State
2 Route 97's about in the middle of that, and it takes us into
3 Bagdad, which is a very large copper mine. Very critical to the
4 region.

5 Our first grant application will be for the RAISE
6 grant due at the end of next month, and we are finalizing our
7 grant application and working to gather letters of support from
8 various agencies. We have a great partnership with ADOT. You
9 should be very proud of those guys. K.K. (phonetic), Paul
10 Patane and Anthony Brozich as they work in our best interest to
11 help make this submission successful.

12 As we move closer to the first grant submission,
13 I ask for your continued support of the efforts that Freeport
14 made undertaking to develop the improvements on State Route 97,
15 which will facilitate safer access for the daily use of several
16 hundred commercial trucks and passenger vehicles, as well as
17 faster response for U.S. -- for emergency services who also use
18 this road to reach the emergencies on US-93.

19 Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board
20 for the opportunity to speak this morning, and many thanks to
21 all the folks that help us out with ADOT partnership that I
22 mentioned before. I hope you all have a great day and a good
23 weekend.

24 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Jennifer.

25 Our next speaker is Mr. Daryl Ahasteen.

1 Mr. Ahasteen, please raise your hand.

2 WEBEX HOST: Daryl, I have requested to unmute
3 your line. You're now unmuted.

4 MR. AHASTEEN: Yes. Thank you, Chairman Knight
5 and the Board Members of the Arizona State Transportation Board.
6 Basically, I'm here to keep plugging along on the moving the
7 port of entry to Pinta exit.

8 And I do have a -- we're working with a company
9 called Freight Relay out of Oklahoma, and I did send a
10 two-minute presentation to Floyd, and the information I got back
11 is it's not set up for viewing right now, and the presentation
12 will be sent out to the board members. That's a really
13 excellent presentation, and if you have time, take a look at it,
14 and it is a good project to move out to Pinta exit.

15 The north side of the interstate, we're still
16 working on the -- on the -- obtaining funding for the truck
17 stop, truck repair, the port of entry, the freight relay, and a
18 big parking space for 18 wheelers to park there. And we sure
19 wish we could get this thing rolling, because we do need a lot
20 of these 18s to park and get some rest. We've been getting a
21 massive amount of accidents out here on I-40, and it would sure
22 be nice to maybe pull them off the road and get them some rest
23 and then move them down the road again.

24 Anyway, that's -- I didn't time myself, but that
25 should be about three minutes right there. Thank you. And

1 congratulations on the new member coming in from Graham County.
2 And (speaking Native language). Jesse, it's good to see you
3 still hanging in there. (Speaking Native language.) Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Daryl.

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mr. Bruce
6 Bracker.

7 Mr. Bracker, please raise your hand.

8 WEBEX HOST: I'm not seeing any hands. Just a
9 reminder, please press star three to raise your hand.

10 All right. Floyd, I'm not seeing any hands.

11 MR. ROEHRICH: Okay. We'll go on to our next
12 speaker is Mr. Samuel Deckard. Mr. Deckard, please raise your
13 hand.

14 I believe, Mr. -- or Chairman Knight, Mr. Deckard
15 may not make it. He did send an email saying he may not be able
16 to participate. So I just wanted to double-check with him.

17 WEBEX HOST: I'm not seeing any hands raised at
18 the moment.

19 MR. ROEHRICH: I'll go back and see if
20 Ms. Brianna Klatt -- is Ms. Klatt present now? Please raise
21 your hand.

22 WEBEX HOST: No hands raised at this moment.

23 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, those are all the
24 requests to speak.

25 WEBEX HOST: Oh.

1 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I'm sorry. Mr. Bracker has
2 just raised his hand.

3 WEBEX HOST: All right. Bracker -- Mr. Bracker,
4 I am -- requested to unmute your line.

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Bracker, are you there?

6 MR. BRACKER: Good morning.

7 MR. ROEHRICH: Good morning, sir. Please -- we
8 can hear you. Go ahead and make your comments.

9 MR. BRACKER: Thank you very much. I'm calling
10 in support of the tier two study for the Sonoran corridor. This
11 is something that's going to have a tremendous impact on Santa
12 Cruz County in southern Arizona, reducing truck traffic on
13 Highway 28, which is already being impacted by a new mine, and
14 as that comes into play, there's going to be a lot more truck
15 traffic on 82. It's also going to reduce travel times from the
16 East Coast on interstate. So I-10 down to Santa Cruz County, to
17 the produce warehouses, the maquila manufacturing in Mexico. So
18 this is really, really important stuff for Santa Cruz County.

19 The other really important things for Santa Cruz
20 County, obviously, the Ruby Road TI and the Rio Rico Drive TI
21 and the frontage roads that connect them. So I just want to
22 thank the Board for keeping these in mind. Thank you very much
23 for your service. I realize that you guys volunteer your time
24 to do this, and I hope you guys have a great year, and we'll see
25 you in Tucson. My apologies for not being there in person

1 today. Thank you, Floyd.

2 MR. ROEHRICH: Thank you, Mr. Bracker.

3 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Yes. Thank you, Supervisor,
4 for your comments.

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, that is all the
6 requests to speak.

7 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Floyd.

8 That being said, we will now move on to Item
9 Number 1 on the agenda, the director's report. Floyd?

10 MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chairman, on behalf of
11 Director Halikowski, he does send his regrets. He cannot be
12 here. As you know, and it's been already identified, he is in
13 the process of going through retirement, and I think his
14 appointment (inaudible) retirement (inaudible) this morning. So
15 he wants to make sure he gets that set up. So he is not able to
16 be here. He does send his apologies. Obviously, he had a
17 wonderful time in working with yourself and your peers from
18 previous years. He's been 14 years on the Board -- excuse me --
19 on ADOT working with the Board. So hopefully he and his wife,
20 Ruth, will enjoy a long and healthy retirement. They definitely
21 deserve that.

22 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Certainly.

23 MR. ROEHRICH: He didn't have any points to bring
24 up.

25 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Okay.

1 MR. ROEHRICH: I do have a short legislative
2 update. Obviously, the Legislature kicked off. You know that
3 Katy Proctor, our legislative director, has left the department.
4 Her replacement (inaudible) will start presenting.
5 Unfortunately, he's got a meeting with some Governor's staff
6 this morning addressing some of the issues that they have been
7 bringing up. So he could not be here.

8 He will also be working on sending out the weekly
9 legislative update, which we will start sending to you once he
10 starts posting those. So he wanted me to remind you that you
11 should start received those. He did have a couple things he did
12 want to point out.

13 The new legislative session began Monday,
14 January 9th. This Legislature had a large amount of turnover,
15 including 40 new legislators, 31 in the House and 9 in the
16 Senate. Representative Cook has been appointed as the Chairman
17 of the House Transportation and Infrastructure and Committee,
18 and Senator Farnsworth was appointed as the Chairman of the
19 Senate Transportation and Technology Committee, and we've
20 already had meetings with both of those as they start to move it
21 forward.

22 There have been a total of 741 bills so far. 561
23 in the House and 180 in the Senate. Once again, there's a lot
24 of interest in transportation infrastructure, which they've seen
25 so far 13 bills introduced with a dollar amount about

1 \$600 million. Obviously that will be part of his weekly update
2 and part of what he will be providing in future updates to the
3 Board.

4 Let's see. One other point he does send is that
5 Governor Hobbs has released her 2024 executive budget on Friday,
6 January 13th, and again, as we have a chance to sift through
7 that and work with the Governor's staff on it, we'll be able to
8 provide more information on any infrastructure transportation
9 ADOT interests as we move forward.

10 That is his update, Mr. Chairman.

11 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

12 Does any member have any questions for Floyd?

13 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair.

14 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Yes.

15 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair, Floyd, hope we have the
16 opportunity before Director Halikowski gets to enjoy his
17 upcoming retirement and enjoy his life (inaudible) going
18 forward. He's -- many of us have worked with him both -- on
19 both sides of the dais over a long period of time, so I hope you
20 keep us informed of any events or opportunity where we as board
21 members or as an entire body have an opportunity to thank him
22 for his long tenure (inaudible). He's done an outstanding job.

23 The question I've got for you is do you know,
24 have any timeline or any plan, will there be an acting director
25 for a period of time before Ms. Toth can take the role, or do

1 you know the timeline on that? Just kind of wondering for our
2 perspective. Who should we be engaging with at ADOT on issues?

3 MR. ROEHRICH: Chairman Knight, Board Member
4 Maxwell, John's expected retirement day is the 29th of January.
5 Jennifer Toth's effective date is the 30th of January. So
6 continue to send information to John. He'll be monitoring it,
7 and then they'll -- so there will be no gap. He will be the
8 director up until Monday, January 30th, when Jennifer Toth will
9 take over.

10 As far as trying to do any celebration, at his
11 request, at his insistence, we are planning nothing to be done,
12 and not -- me personally, out of respect, I'm planning nothing.
13 He doesn't want anything, and quite frankly, I'm willing to give
14 him nothing.

15 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Mr. Chairman, Floyd,
16 (inaudible) and I don't know that he's -- should get to do that
17 (inaudible) his long --

18 MS. DANIELS: (Inaudible.)

19 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: -- relationship with the
20 Transportation Board and with ADOT, there should be something.

21 MR. ROEHRICH: I will defer to our Deputy
22 Director Kismet Weiss who is here. Maybe after the meeting you
23 all may want to have a short conversation with her, but he has
24 been insistent that he does not want any recognition, so...

25 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Well (inaudible).

1 MR. ROEHRICH: I understand. I understand
2 (inaudible).

3 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Okay. Moving on to Item
4 Number 2, the district report. We'll move on to that with
5 Jeremy Moore.

6 MR. MOORE: Good morning, Mr. Chair, members of
7 the Board. My name is Jeremy Moore. I am the assistant
8 district engineer for the Southcentral District, and I will be
9 providing the district update for today.

10 All right. So I want to start off on I-10. One
11 of our bigger projects in the -- in the district. Ina to
12 Ruthrauff TI with Granite Construction Company. This project is
13 1 point -- 171 million. The delivery method for this project is
14 a low bid, and the start date is February of '23. So next month
15 we should be getting underway on this project, and the
16 completion is late of '25.

17 And so this project would essentially widen I-10
18 to four lanes in each direction. We've got some axillary on and
19 off ramps. We've got some bridges that we're going to be
20 building, and then we're going to flip the Sunset TI. So,
21 essentially, the Sunset will go over the interstate, and then we
22 will connect Sunset to River Road on this project.

23 Moving along to -- moving along to I-10 to Ajo
24 and Milepost 272, which is essentially the Wilmot Road TI.
25 We've got a 10-mile pavement preservation project with Granite

1 Construction. Contract amount is 15.5 million. It was a low
2 bid. The start date is December of '22, so which was just
3 getting started, and then we've got an expected completion of
4 2023.

5 And this project will mill the existing friction
6 course and replace it with an AR-ACFC, which is an asphalt
7 rubber friction course, and we will have a crack sealing,
8 guardrail and bridge deck repairs as well on this project.

9 Moving over to I-19, U.S. border to I-10. We've
10 got our broadband project. The design builder on this project
11 is Sundt Construction and Kimley-Horn. Contract amount is
12 14.9 million, and the delivery for this one was a design build.
13 We started this project March of '22 and hope to have it
14 completed in spring of '23. And this project will install
15 conduit, fiber pull boxes and node buildings.

16 Moving over to State Route 77, I-10 to Calle
17 Concordia, we've got Granite Construction with a contract amount
18 of 34 million. This delivery method was low bid. We've started
19 this back in February of '21 and hope to have it completed
20 summer of '23. This project essentially is a pavement
21 preservation project with some safety improvements. New curb,
22 gutter, sidewalk, some streetlights and some left turn lanes
23 at -- a dual left turn lane at Magee as well.

24 Moving over to State Route 79, we have our Gila
25 River bridge project with FNF Construction. The contract amount

1 was 22 million, and the delivery method for this project is a
2 CMAR. And we started this project back in January of '22, and
3 hope to have it completed the summer of '23.

4 This project is a little exciting, a little
5 unique to us. It's kind of what we use A, B, C construction.
6 It's an accelerated bridge construction. So essentially, it is
7 a bridge replacement, and the contractor builds components or
8 portions of the bridge offline, and then they slide it into
9 place with heavy equipment. So it's pretty interesting to watch
10 and to get out and see this one. It's kind of the first one in
11 our district that we've seen. So it's -- you know, it's pretty
12 interesting to us.

13 Moving over to Santa Cruz County, this is a local
14 government project on Pendleton Drive at Sonoita Creek Wash with
15 The Ashton Company. Contract amount is 19.98 million. Delivery
16 method is low bid. We're getting ready to get that started
17 right now, actually, and then hopefully they'll have it
18 completed this summer before the monsoons. We would be
19 installing an 11 barrel reinforced concrete box culvert across
20 the roadway, extending the shared use path, some pavement
21 markings and some signing.

22 Moving over to State Route 80, San Pedro River
23 Bridge with FNF Construction. Our contract amount,
24 9.79 million. Delivery method was low bid, and we started this
25 back in October of '22, and hope to have this completed early of

1 '24. This is a full bridge replacement, so we're going to have
2 new drill shafts, new columns, new beams, new girders, new
3 bridge deck, a new barrier wall, the whole thing. The whole
4 bridge is getting rebuilt on this one.

5 Moving over to State Route 90, Benson to Railroad
6 Drive, with FNF Construction. We've got a \$5 million project
7 there. Low bid. We started this back in August of '22 and
8 should have this wrapped up next month, actually. And this
9 project was a spot mill and fill, bonded wearing course overlay
10 and some pavement markings.

11 Moving along State Route 90, Kartchner Caverns to
12 Camino De Pampas. We've got FNF Construction out there.
13 Contract amount 2.63 million. It was a low bid. The start date
14 was back in June of '22. We did finish this up and complete it
15 last month. So it is officially complete. Again, this project
16 was a spot mill and fill with some ACFC -- it's like an asphalt
17 friction course -- and some pavement markings as well.

18 And then we wrap up with State Route 92, Glenn
19 Road to Calle Del Tecolote with Granite Construction. This
20 contract amount was 1.76 million. It was a low bid. We started
21 back in July of '22 and wrapped up in November, last November.
22 And again, this was a pavement pres. where we milled the
23 existing friction course and placed a bonded wearing course
24 overlay and pavement markings as well.

25 Next slide.

1 And that concludes the district update.

2 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

3 Does any member have any questions for Jeremy?

4 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: Gary.

5 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Yes, Richard.

6 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: Jeremy, could you bring us
7 up-to-date on Highway 92 from the Border Patrol down to Moson
8 Road?

9 MR. MOORE: Sure. Mr. Chair, members of the
10 Board, so currently we've got a project in our five-year
11 program, and it basically starts over there at the Border Patrol
12 station on State Route 90. It is a 22-mile project where we're
13 going out there and we're going to mill up the existing pavement
14 and place it back. It's got -- it's going to include the turn
15 lanes, the shoulders, the turnouts, some ADA modifications and
16 upgrades, signing and striping. We're currently looking at
17 trying to get that work started later this year, around November
18 '23.

19 Our current status right now is we're, you know,
20 coordinating survey efforts. We're doing ADA feasibility
21 reports, trying to coordinate right-of-way efforts. We've got
22 some utility impacts that we've got to look into and make sure
23 we coordinate those, and then we're also coordinating the
24 environmental efforts and the geotechnical and pavement
25 (indiscernible) investigations. So we hope to get this thing

1 underway by the end of this year.

2 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: And this will deal with most
3 of the issues that the counsel member...

4 MR. MOORE: That is correct. It will go all the
5 way to Moson Road. This goes all the way to Moson. So it wraps
6 all the way around that bend where those shopping centers are.

7 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: Thank you.

8 MR. MOORE: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Another board member have any
10 questions for Jeremy?

11 Thank you, Jeremy.

12 MR. MOORE: Thank you guys.

13 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Moving on to Item 3, the
14 consent agenda. Does any member want an item removed from the
15 consent agenda? Are there any --

16 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: I'm make a motion to approve
17 the consent agenda.

18 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I have a motion.

19 MR. THOMPSON: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Do you have something, Jesse?

21 MR. THOMPSON: Second by Board Member Thompson.

22 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I have a motion by Board Member
23 Searle, a second by Board Member Thompson to approve the consent
24 agenda as presented.

25 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

1 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

2 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Opposed?

3 Floyd, would you conduct the roll call for the
4 virtual members?

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

6 MR. MECK: Aye.

7 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Thompson.

8 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

9 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, the motion carries.

10 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

11 We'll move on now to the financial report with
12 Agenda Item Number 4, with Kristine Ward, for information and
13 discussion only.

14 MS. WARD: Good morning, Chairman Knight and
15 Board Members, and welcome, Ms. Howard. I look forward to
16 meeting you in person soon.

17 So for the financial report for this month, let's
18 start off with the Highway User Revenue Fund, as we always do.
19 Now, for 2023, our current fiscal year, we anticipated HURF
20 revenues to run at about 1 billion 750 million, and we are just
21 a little behind forecast, 1.1 percent behind forecast. That --
22 what that equates to in dollars is about -- about \$10 million.

23 Now, you'll recall that the State Highway Fund is
24 one of the many beneficiaries of Highway User Fund revenues, and
25 so we get -- the State Highway Fund gets about 37 when you net

1 it all -- all the little distributions out. We get about
2 37 percent of that flows into the State Highway Fund. So we're
3 talking a very small impact on the State Highway Fund. Nothing
4 of significant concern.

5 If we could move on to the next slide.

6 This report, this -- this table, what it shows
7 you is the individual revenue categories that flow in and
8 support HURF, and this shows you for the individual categories
9 for the month of December. For the individual month of
10 December, we're about 2.4 percent behind forecast, but again,
11 overall, year to date, we're about 1.1 percent behind forecast.

12 Moving on to the next slide, if we could.

13 And let's discuss the -- briefly touch on the
14 Regional Area Road Fund. For the year, we're anticipating
15 forecasting revenues of about 720 million. Actual revenues are
16 running just a little ahead. 1.5 percent ahead, and that
17 equates to about \$4 million ahead of forecast.

18 If you go into the next slide, Rhett.

19 Here are your individual categories for the
20 revenues that flow in and support the Regional Area Road Fund.
21 (Audio interruption) figures for November. It always runs kind
22 of a little behind HURF because of the way the dollars are
23 collected and the timing and so forth, because these dollars go
24 to the Department of Revenue and are processed there. So for
25 the month of December, we were -- we are running about 2.4

1 percent ahead of forecast, or that equates to about
2 \$1.4 million.

3 If we go to the next slide.

4 So as was mentioned earlier, I think Floyd was
5 mentioning for Anthony on the legislative report, the executive
6 budget did come out, and we are reviewing and analyzing that,
7 and so I'll give you a report out on that next month.

8 In terms of the federal program and our debt
9 program, I have nothing to report there. Our investments in
10 terms of cash management, we are earning a very meager, like,
11 2.5, 2.6 percent on our investments.

12 With that, that concludes my report, and I would
13 be happy to take any questions you might have.

14 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Does any board member have
15 questions for Kristine?

16 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair.

17 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Yes, Ted.

18 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair, Kristine, I'm not sure
19 if this is the right place to ask it, but I know I want to get
20 it addressed and on the record. One of the issues with a lot of
21 funding we get from the State, obviously, sometimes it covers
22 the majority of costs, sometimes it doesn't. Sometimes we look
23 at it as opportunity to leverage for federal dollars, and with
24 the 400 million that was allocated last year to go towards
25 Interstate 10 and the widening between Phoenix and Tucson, we

1 were hoping to get a much larger grant from the federal
2 government as well. As I understand it, we've been informed we
3 did not receive that grant.

4 So I guess, Kristine, if it's to you, or if
5 there's another time, Floyd, to address this, my curiosity is
6 have we done any assessment -- as an old military guy, I believe
7 in debriefs. Have we done an assessment where we've taken a
8 look at why we weren't successful on our ends, what we could do
9 differently next time or a lesson learned out of it, and then
10 more importantly, what's the next step forward to try to cover
11 those funds? I know the state, there's already been a little
12 (indiscernible) 350 million for Interstate 10, but I think the
13 budget this year and where the money's going to go
14 (indiscernible) State Legislature may be much more difficult
15 than it has been in the past, particularly with regards to
16 infrastructure investment, so...

17 MR. ROEHRICH: So Mr. Chair, Mr. Maxwell,
18 Kristine, I can answer that if you would like.

19 MS. WARD: Go for it.

20 MR. ROEHRICH: I'll attempt, and then I may need
21 some assistance.

22 The debriefs on the grant have not happened yet,
23 but we are -- intend to request, and we will go in and we will
24 ask and see what exactly happened with our request. We'll
25 continue to do that.

1 In the meantime, we have adjusted to the amount
2 of funding that we have in the program to start making
3 improvements and get as much done as we can with the available
4 funds, which includes, you know, starting construction on the
5 Gila River Bridge as a separate contract, starting to look at
6 the south end of what would have been the whole project to see
7 if we can start moving those forward, because that's (inaudible)
8 the rural segment, and then coordinating to MAG on (inaudible)
9 north of the Gila River Bridge to make sure that funding is
10 still in the program and their program to look at that segment.

11 In addition, as you've said, you've already
12 talked with some legislators and others who may look to fund the
13 gap that the grant would have provided with additional general
14 funds. If that comes in, then that would help us to continue to
15 move those issues forward.

16 So we're continuing to do the planning. We're
17 continuing to do the development, and we're looking to get all
18 the segments ready to go in the event that we get additional
19 funding, we could (indiscernible) them together. If we don't
20 get additional funding, we will continue to make improvements as
21 best we can one segment at a time.

22 Greg, you may have additional comments on that.

23 MR. BYRES: So I think Floyd hit all the points.
24 One of the other emphasis I'd like to make is at this point we
25 have not received any information from USDOT on any projects

1 that have been approved for the MEGA grant. Once that does come
2 through, we will probably not get any information if we do not
3 get it. We will get confirmation if we do get it, but at that
4 point in time, then we can take and comment out.

5 Also, after that is made, after that announcement
6 is made, we get the opportunity for a debrief from USDOT. So we
7 will schedule that debrief to see if there's anything that we
8 can do to improve. This was the first round of MEGA grants that
9 has come out, so we're extremely interested in that debrief to
10 see how the analysis was done. This was -- this particular
11 grant was way overemphasized as far as the number of applicants
12 that came in. I don't know how many billions of dollars worth
13 of projects came in for that grant application, but it was way
14 more than was -- what was expected, so...

15 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair, I just want to clarify
16 something on that, Greg. You said there's no -- been no
17 official notification of who's gotten it or not. Obviously the
18 (inaudible) working. I don't want (inaudible) folks with the
19 glimmer of expectation that we are going to (inaudible).

20 MR. BYRES: So what information that we have
21 received so far, there -- with the grant, with the MEGA grant,
22 there is a 30-day review notice that goes out to our
23 Congressional -- to all of Congress. So basically -- and that's
24 what it is. It's a review. So upon the completion of that 30
25 days, then USDOT will make an announcement. So we're in that 30

1 days.

2 MR. MAXWELL: Appreciate it. Thank you,
3 Mr. Chair.

4 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Jenn.

5 MS. DANIELS: Thank you.

6 I actually have that on my list of items
7 (inaudible) suggestions. I would really love for us to have a
8 future meeting study session and federal grants and our
9 applications. I don't -- I don't believe that our percentage of
10 return on federal grants is a shining star for us as an agency
11 and I'd love for it to be. So I would really like for us to do
12 a deep dive to the federal grant program so that we can
13 understand as a board where we have opportunity and where we
14 don't and where we might be able to capture more as (inaudible).

15 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Any other comments? Questions?

16 Hearing none, we'll move on to Agenda Item
17 Number 5 with Paul Patane for the Multimodal Planning Division
18 report, for discussion -- information and discussion only.

19 MR. PATANE: Good morning, Chairman Knight, Board
20 Members. Paul Patane, Multimodal Planning Division.

21 Next slide, please.

22 Today's update will cover the following areas:
23 The tribal transportation update, the freight plan, truck
24 parking, the City of Douglas International Port of Entry
25 Connector Road Study, the current RAISE grant application that's

1 out, along with a little summary of the call to the public --
2 call to the public comments we received at the (inaudible) the
3 December meeting.

4 Next slide.

5 So as far as the tribal transportation update,
6 you may have heard earlier this month Mr. Jason Chavez, a member
7 of the Tohono O'odham Nation, was designated as a new director
8 for the Governor's Office of Tribal Relations by our new
9 Governor Hobbs. Our goal will be to work with the new
10 Mr. Chavez to maintain compliance. As required, this usually
11 requires our liaisons to follow up with the Governor's request
12 for tribal coordination and assistance. We attend the regular
13 meetings conducted by the director and develop and submit our
14 annual tribal consultation report as it's an annual report
15 that's due by ADOT.

16 Next slide, please.

17 Back on January 11th was the Indian Nation and
18 Tribes Legislative Day. That was attended by ADOT staff. We
19 had a booth there, represented by MPD, disadvantaged business
20 enterprises, or DBE staff, along with others. Some of the
21 topics (inaudible) session topics that were covered during
22 the -- this event were the I-10 development for a safer route
23 through the Gila River Indian Community, broadband and high-
24 speed internet accessibility, the water drought concerns, along
25 with increased state-tribal partnership and consultation at the

1 legislative level.

2 Next slide, please.

3 Little update on the state freight plan
4 implementation. Back last month, in early December, the FHWA
5 approved our freight plan, and so some of the things that have
6 been happening since that approval, received authorization from
7 FHWA to begin our state -- statewide truck parking plan. So
8 we'll advertise next month and get the consultant service
9 onboard to begin that effort.

10 Also, we were able to start working on
11 improvements, put projects together that will come to the Board
12 for approval for improvements to keep Parks and Christensen rest
13 areas open along with approvals to do project assessments, to
14 add truck parking spaces at the Sacaton, San Simon, Bouse Wash
15 and Texas Canyon rest areas.

16 Next slide, please.

17 Just a little update of the City of Douglas
18 International Port of Entry Connector Road Study. As mentioned
19 earlier by the mayor for Douglas, there was a notice to proceed
20 that was issued to our consultant earlier this month, and so
21 we'll begin the process of putting together the design concept
22 report and the environmental assessment. This will take, you
23 know, a lot of collaboration with our FHWA partners, (inaudible)
24 Services Administration, Cochise County, and other stakeholders.
25 So we look forward to putting this project together.

1 Next slide, please.

2 Little update on our -- the RAISE grant
3 applications for this cycle. There was a notice of funding
4 opportunity put out earlier December, and the deadline for this
5 RAISE grant application deadline is February 28th. And so ADOT
6 will be the lead applicant of the US-93 Vista Royale project.
7 On this project -- on US-93, it will be a continuation of the
8 widening of the two lane sections.

9 Another RAISE action being put in is for the
10 US-95 corridor from Wellton-Mohawk to Aberdeen Road in Yuma
11 County. Here the YMPO will be the lead applicant. They'll --
12 this is for a planning grant for -- to continue the design of
13 US-95. If they're successful, they'll transfer the award to
14 ADOT, and ADOT will administer this award. But we found out
15 that usually the locals are more successful at obtaining RAISE
16 grants, and YMPO has agreed to take the lead on this
17 application.

18 The next RAISE grant that will be submitted is
19 the SR-97. As mentioned earlier, this is the segment that's
20 adjacent to the Freeport-McMoRan mine. We're working with
21 Yavapai County and FMI on this grant. Yavapai County will be
22 the lead applicant with this submittal. Again, if they're
23 successful, then they'll transfer the award to ADOT, and ADOT
24 will administer the grant.

25 When there's, you know, grants that come out,

1 it's not uncommon for ADOT to provide letters of support for
2 many of these grants that the locals applied for. So that's an
3 ongoing effort.

4 MR. ROEHRICH: Paul, you have the right slide. I
5 just want to make sure --

6 MR. PATANE: Yeah. (Inaudible.)

7 MR. ROEHRICH: I think you were a slide behind.
8 You did the RAISE grant now. Do you want to go to the next
9 slide?

10 MR. PATANE: Yes.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right here?

12 MR. PATANE: Yes.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

14 MR. PATANE: So these are some of the comments
15 that we received from the December Transportation Board meeting.
16 So I'm going to lump bullet number one and bullet number five.
17 These were comments related really to some of the operational
18 concerns expressed by many of the folks who were speaking at the
19 call to the public. They involve, you know, bus pullouts,
20 drainage concerns, intersection lighting. So our approach there
21 is similar to what we did the night before the board meeting,
22 where we sit down with the locals and find out those concerns,
23 but it's important that we work with the district to prioritize
24 those concerns, that way we can look at opportunities to find
25 funding sources that are out there to address some of these

1 matters. So it's an ongoing collaboration that we will have
2 with Many Farms and the folks in the Chinle area.

3 Then on the Interstate 11, the tier II study, the
4 I-10 to Wickenburg portion, that process is still in the
5 procurement phase of obtaining consultant services to do the
6 study.

7 Then as far as SR-347 traffic operations, you
8 heard many of the concerns voiced by the public, and so there
9 was a productive meeting, as mentioned earlier by the mayor of
10 Maricopa, where we came up with some short-term solutions by
11 doing a road safety assessment to kind of prioritize some of the
12 areas that we need to focus on.

13 Then also, the -- we are obtaining design
14 consultant services to begin the portion of designing the
15 section of (inaudible) 347.

16 Then the request for the Navajo Route 4, this
17 request was made to -- where the -- they want us to make the
18 Navajo 41 a state highway, and that's currently still under
19 review by staff, and we'll seek the direction as we move forward
20 along the process.

21 Any questions?

22 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Board members have any
23 questions for Paul?

24 Hearing none, we'll move on to PPAC.

25 MR. THOMPSON: Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Item 6 (inaudible).

2 MR. ROEHRICH: It sounds like Mr. Thompson has a
3 comment.

4 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Oh, okay.

5 MR. THOMPSON: Chairman.

6 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Yes, Jesse.

7 MR. THOMPSON: I do have a question for Paul.

8 On that, I do -- first of all, let me extend my
9 appreciation to the board members that were able to go out to
10 Chinle and to the two or three other board members who actually
11 went out to the project sites in Chinle and Many Farms area, as
12 I have said many times and we've all said many times that
13 (inaudible) struggle and looking at the project site is much
14 better than just listening, you know, from the public about the
15 project, actually seeing it does make a lot of difference.
16 Thank you for that.

17 And Paul, do you need any -- what other official
18 document which we -- would you want from the Navajo Nation as
19 far as requests to ADOT to acquire Navajo 41, or what they have
20 presented, is that sufficient enough to move forward with it?
21 Thank you, Chair.

22 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Jesse.

23 MR. PATANE: Chairman Knight, Board Member
24 Thompson, right now I think we have sufficient information. You
25 know, it's just a matter of the ADOT -- ADOT getting together

1 and evaluating it and coming up with the best approach moving
2 forward. Whenever we take routes into the system or turn back
3 routes, you know, the -- huge resource is involved in making
4 those decision, and I don't think we're at a point yet to make
5 that decision.

6 MR. THOMPSON: I really appreciate that. And I
7 think we -- because of that request, we need to do as much as we
8 can to move it along. So again, thank you very much. Thank
9 you, Chair.

10 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Are there any other questions
11 for Paul?

12 Hearing none, we'll move on to PPAC, Item
13 Number 6. Paul you're still up.

14 MR. PATANE: Thank you, Chairman Knight, Board
15 Members. For your consideration are the recommended changes to
16 the FY 2023-2027 Transportation Facilities Construction Program.
17 I'd like to make a recommendation for Items 6A through 6E
18 project modifications.

19 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
20 approve Items 6A through 6E.

21 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Motion from Ted to approve
22 Items 6A through 6E. Do I have a second?

23 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: I'll second that.

24 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: A second from Richard. Any
25 discussion?

1 All in favor signify by saying aye.

2 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

3 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Floyd, go ahead with the roll
4 call for our virtual members.

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

6 MR. MECK: Aye.

7 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Thompson.

8 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

9 MR. ROEHRICH: Chairman, the motion carries.

10 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

11 MR. PATANE: Chairman, Board Members, for your
12 consideration are the recommended changes to the FY 2023-2027
13 Transportation Facilities Construction Program. These
14 recommendations are for new projects Items 6F through 6L.

15 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Any board member that have a
16 question for Paul on any of the Items 6F through 6L?

17 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: Make a motion to approve.

18 MR. MAXWELL: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I have a motion from Richard
20 and a second from Ted to approve the PPAC new projects, Items 6F
21 through 6L as presented. All those in favor please signify by
22 saying aye.

23 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

24 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Opposed?

25 Floyd go ahead and poll our virtual members.

1 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

2 MR. MECK: Aye.

3 Board Member Thompson.

4 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Chairman, the motion carries.

6 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

7 We'll now move on to Agenda Number 7, state
8 engineer's report, for information and discussion only. And
9 Greg Byres is up.

10 MR. BYRES: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman,
11 Board Members. Before I get going on what I've got on Item 7, I
12 would like to bring up a couple things.

13 Over the last couple weeks, we've had some major
14 winter storm events up in the northern part of the state, and
15 with that has come several road closures. So I-40 has been hit
16 really hard. 89A particularly has been hit hard. I-17's been
17 hit. With those, we have had well over 50 plows running on
18 almost a continuous basis during those events. We've run them
19 24 hours a day, working them 12 shifts for 12 hours. Our
20 personnel is based on not only people that are -- are employees
21 that are there in the Northwest District, Northcentral District
22 and the Northeast District, but we bring up several employees
23 out of the southern part of the state to supplement and help
24 keep those plows going.

25 We've had a couple of incidents up there with

1 actually people running into our plows, but other than that,
2 it's worked really well. We have had some extremely heavy snows
3 where we just couldn't keep up, which is what causes the
4 closures. Once we can get in there and clean up, then we're
5 able to open those roads. But I just wanted to kind of make it
6 clear that these have been very big storms, and they've dumped a
7 tremendous amount, and they've been over and over again. Our
8 guys up there have done a tremendous job, and they work
9 tirelessly trying to get those roads cleared up. So I just
10 wanted to, one, make sure that you understood what was going on,
11 and two, give a big shoutout to the guys that are actually doing
12 this work, because it's -- that's a tough job, and they have
13 been doing an excellent job at doing it. So I just wanted to
14 bring that up to start with.

15 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Greg.

16 MR. BYRES: So...

17 MR. THOMPSON: Greg, Chairman.

18 MR. BYRES: Yes.

19 MR. THOMPSON: Chairman, I'd just like to mention
20 the fact that an appreciation, there was a shoutout on that for
21 the job that our ADOT staff are doing up north. This shoutout
22 came out of (indiscernible), our radio station on the Navajo
23 Nation. So again, they've -- they're recognized for doing being
24 able to do a good job. So thank you, Greg. So again, thank
25 you, Chairman.

1 MR. BYRES: Mr. Chairman, Board Members, as we go
2 through the engineer's report, we have over 100 -- or we have
3 right at 100 projects under construction worth \$1.9 billion. We
4 have seven projects that were finalized in the month of
5 December, worth \$61.6 million. And fiscal year to date, we have
6 42 projects that we have finalized. That's a tremendous number
7 of projects that we're trying to knock out.

8 Right now, we have on our books that we're trying
9 to develop projects, it's the biggest list of projects that ADOT
10 has ever had, and it's amazing how fast they're going through.
11 So we're really working hard to get those out and on the ground
12 as quick as we can. As soon as -- in a lot of cases, as soon as
13 the construction time frame opens up, we will have those
14 projects ready to go.

15 That was all I had for in the engineer's report.

16 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Greg.

17 Does any board member have any question for Greg?

18 You're still up. We'll move on to Agenda Item
19 Number 8, Greg.

20 MR. BYRES: Thank you very much.

21 Item 8, 8A, is a pavement preservation project.
22 This is on I-40, from the California border to Milepost 2.4.
23 For this project we had five bidders.

24 MR. ROEHRICH: Can you go to the next slide,
25 please?

1 I'm sorry, Greg.

2 MR. BYRES: We had five bidders. The low bid was
3 \$956,000. The State's estimate was \$1,220,377. The difference
4 was \$264,377, or 21.7 percent.

5 The biggest differences that we saw between the
6 State's estimate and the low bid was material was coming out of
7 Bullhead City. We had originally estimated that coming out of
8 Phoenix. The other thing was the shorter duration of
9 construction than what was estimated. The contractors believe
10 that they can do it a little bit quicker than what we had
11 estimated. Therefore, their prices came in much lower than what
12 we had expected.

13 After analyzing the bid, it is a responsible and
14 responsive bid and we recommend award to VSS International, Inc.

15 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: I'm make a motion to approve
16 Item 8A.

17 MS. HOWARD: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I have a motion from Richard
19 and a second from Jenny to approve Item 8A. Any further
20 discussion?

21 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

22 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Floyd, would you conduct the
24 roll call of our virtual members?

25 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, sir.

1 Board Member Meck.

2 MR. MECK: Aye.

3 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Thompson.

4 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

5 MR. ROEHRICH: Chairman, the motion carries.

6 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

7 MR. BYRES: The next item we have is Item 8B.

8 This is a bridge replacement project on SR-87. The Teesto Wash
9 Bridge. For this project we had five bidders. The low bid was
10 \$6,972,372. The State's estimate was \$8,385,740, a difference
11 of \$1,413,368, or 16.9 percent.

12 The biggest differences that we saw on this was a
13 bridge removal will be performed by a subcontractor at a much
14 lower price than what we had estimated, and then there is also a
15 realized economy of scale due to the number of drill shaft
16 foundations that we did not account for when we did our
17 estimates. So consequently, the bids come in much lower than
18 what we had expected.

19 After analyzing the bid, it is a responsible and
20 responsive bid, and we recommend award to SEMA Construction,
21 Inc.

22 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Any questions for Greg on 8B?

23 MR. THOMPSON: Chairman.

24 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Yes, Jesse.

25 MR. THOMPSON: Chairman, I -- that project will

1 be in my district, so I'd like to move that we approve the
2 funding as represented -- presented for that Teesto project.

3 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Okay. I have a motion from
4 Jesse to approve Item 8B. Do I have a second?

5 MR. MAXWELL: Second.

6 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I have a second from Ted.
7 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

8 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

9 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Any opposed?
10 Okay. Floyd, would you take roll call for our
11 members that are not here?

12 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, sir.

13 Board Member Meck.

14 MR. MECK: Yes.

15 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Thompson.

16 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

17 MR. ROEHRICH: Chairman, the motions carries.

18 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

19 MR. BYRES: Thank you.

20 Mr. Chairman, the next item is Item 8C. This is
21 a reconstruction of US-93 from Tegner Street to Wickenburg Ranch
22 Way. We have three bidders on this project. The low bid was
23 \$50,966,991. The State's estimate was \$43,826,460, or a
24 difference of \$7,140,531, a difference of 16.3 percent.

25 The biggest differences that we saw in the cost

1 in our estimate was the drainage pipes are located in 35
2 different locations. Consequently, this is a real piecemeal
3 portions of doing the work, which is slow and a little more
4 expensive. Concrete structures are also located throughout the
5 length of the project and have to be performed in a piecemeal
6 process, as well as the riprap material for the project as well.
7 So each one of those drainage structures.

8 After analyzing the bid, it is a responsible and
9 responsive bid, and we recommend award to FNF Construction, Inc.

10 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Question or (inaudible)?

11 BOARD MEMBER: Not a question, but just a
12 comment. It was encouraging to see the previous two contracts
13 come in underbid, and this sure ate up the rest of it, didn't
14 it? Anyhow, just a comment.

15 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Is there a --

16 BOARD MEMBER: Is that --

17 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: -- motion to award Item 8C to
18 FNF Construction, Inc.?

19 BOARD MEMBER: Did that impact schedule? Are you
20 saying there were so many different areas that impact
21 (inaudible) impact the schedule, the anticipated schedule that
22 (indiscernible)?

23 MR. BYRES: Mr. Chairman, Board Member, no,
24 actually, it -- the contract will go out under its normal -- or
25 what was specified for a time frame. It's just the costs that

1 go up.

2 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Is there a motion to award
3 Item 8C to FNF Construction?

4 MS. HOWARD: So moved.

5 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: We have a motion. Do we have a
6 second?

7 MS. DANIELS: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I have a motion from Jenny and
9 a second from Jenn to award --

10 BOARD MEMBER: (Inaudible) tongue twister
11 (inaudible).

12 MS. DANIELS: The Jenns unite.

13 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: -- 8C to FNF Construction. All
14 those in favor signify by saying aye.

15 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

16 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Opposed?

17 Floyd, would you poll our virtual members?

18 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

19 MR. MECK: Aye.

20 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Thompson.

21 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

22 MR. ROEHRICH: Chairman, the motion carries.

23 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

24 MR. BYRES: Mr. Chairman, Board Members, the next
25 item is Item 8D. This is a sidewalk project and a pedestrian

1 pathway in Gila County. Golden Hill to Main Street. We had
2 four bidders on this project. The low bid was \$1,022,133. The
3 State's estimate was \$1,342,014, or a difference of \$319,881,
4 dollars or 23.8 percent.

5 The biggest differences that we saw between
6 the -- our estimate and the low bid was the contractor expects
7 excavation to be performed in a much more sufficient manner than
8 what we had expected. There's also handrail costs were lower
9 than what we had anticipated, as well as costs for mailboxes.
10 The contractor is -- also believes the survey layout costs will
11 be much less than what we had expected.

12 After analyzing the bid, the bid is a responsible
13 and responsive bid, and we recommend award to Whelcon
14 Contractors, LLC.

15 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Okay. Questions for Greg on
16 Item 8D?

17 Then I will entertain a motion to award Item 8D
18 to Whelcon Contractors, Inc.

19 MS. HOWARD: So moved.

20 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I have a motion from Jenny and
22 a second from Richard to award Item 8D to Whelcon Contractors,
23 Inc.

24 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

25 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Any opposed?

2 Floyd, would you poll our virtual members?

3 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

4 MR. MECK: Aye.

5 MR. ROEHRICH: And Board Member Thompson.

6 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

7 MR. ROEHRICH: Chairman, the motion carries.

8 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you.

9 MR. BYRES: The last item I have is Item 8E.

10 This is installation of a pedestrian hybrid beacon in the city
11 of Casa Grande. We had two bidders on this project. I'd like
12 to note that we had multiple bidders on every single one of
13 these projects. Not one of them had a single bidder. The low
14 bid was \$357,866. The State's estimate was \$143,386, a
15 difference of \$214,481, or 149.6 percent.

16 The biggest difference that we saw was the
17 materials cost for the quantities necessary for the project were
18 considerably higher than what we had expected. The most notable
19 cost was the cost of copper wire and steel reinforcement, as
20 well as concrete for this. Those are in such small quantities
21 that, consequently, the costs were much higher than what we had
22 anticipated.

23 But after analyzing the bid, it is a responsible
24 and responsive bid and recommend award to William Charles
25 Construction Company, LLC.

1 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Questions for Greg?

2 MS. HOWARD: So the utility materials, do you see
3 an impact on lead times? Are they expressing that to you, these
4 contractors?

5 MR. BYRES: So, Mr. Chair, Board Member, yes, in
6 fact, that is a big issue. We have -- when it comes to anything
7 that's signal related, our mast arms or posts or even the
8 electronics themselves, we're seeing that as an extremely long
9 lead time. So consequently, in some cases what we're doing is
10 we're stockpiling some of that material knowing that it will be
11 utilized so that we can take and utilize that material and not
12 have it affect our bids. Now, we only do that in -- on certain
13 things that we have on stock anyhow. So we can't do it for
14 everything, but we can do it for a few items.

15 MS. HOWARD: Okay.

16 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Yes, Jenny.

17 MS. DANIELS: Greg, can you remind what the
18 threshold is to bid or not bid from a dollar amount standpoint?

19 MR. BYRES: We don't necessarily -- I'm --

20 MS. DANIELS: So I'm -- I (inaudible) if a
21 contract is less than \$50,000 on an annual basis, and it is
22 (inaudible) accumulate. We don't go out for -- or we have the
23 opportunity, we'd not go out for a -- for a bid contract. Do we
24 have a threshold like that for ADOT?

25 MR. BYRES: We don't have a set dollar value. It

1 depends on the complexity of the project, the cost of the
2 project, whether or not we have a contract that's available for
3 the type of construction that we're looking at. So there's a
4 lot of variables in there, but we do look at that for the
5 smaller projects that we have going (inaudible).

6 MS. DANIELS: I was just curious if this would
7 have possible fallen (inaudible) I know it's expensive to review
8 bids and it's expensive to process them and it's expensive for
9 companies to be bidding on them as well (inaudible), so I just
10 wondered if we have a rule of thumb.

11 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Any other questions?

12 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah, Chair. Before Greg runs
13 away, I've got a question on kind of the overall. First off,
14 it's great to see bids on all these projects. That is -- that's
15 a huge change, and I think that's maybe one of the reasons the
16 numbers (inaudible). There was a lot of projects that were
17 underbid, although I know mobilization was still (inaudible).

18 What are the current trends that you're seeing?
19 And I know for a while we are talking about catching up with the
20 estimations. Where do you feel -- where do you feel your
21 comfort level is now on the (inaudible) contractors are
22 (inaudible)?

23 MR. BYRES: So, Mr. Chairman, Board Member
24 Maxwell, there's two major factors that we're seeing. One is
25 the quantity of work that is going out in the state. That's

1 kind of dropped off. So we saw a peak, and now we're coming
2 back down that back side. However, I think it's short lived.

3 So we've got another phase of the -- of the
4 (inaudible) plant that's getting ready to kick off, which is
5 now -- that's going to extend that. We thought we were going to
6 see a big drop because of that, but it's not. Intel is also
7 kicking off another one. So we've got a lot of infrastructure
8 work that's not on our system. It's external. So that's kind
9 of in a lull.

10 But the other thing is is we're starting to see
11 the flattening out of a lot of the material costs. So instead
12 of them just going through the roof, they're starting to taper
13 off. They're still climbing, but they're tapering off. So
14 those two factors, I think, are now allowing us to get closer
15 and closer to our -- the estimates that we prepare and the bids
16 that we're getting are starting to come closer together.

17 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Okay. Is there -- if there's
18 no further discussion, is there an award -- is there a motion to
19 award Item 8E to Williams Charles Construction Company, LLC?

20 MS. HOWARD: So moved.

21 MR. MAXWELL: Second.

22 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: I have a motion from Jenny, a
23 second from Ted to award Item 8E to William Charles Construction
24 Company, LLC.

25 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

1 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

2 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Floyd, would you poll the
3 virtual members?

4 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Meck.

5 MR. MECK: Aye.

6 MR. ROEHRICH: Board Member Thompson.

7 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

8 MR. ROEHRICH: Chairman, the motion carries.

9 MR. BYRES: Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Moving on to Item 9,
11 suggestions. Do we have -- any board members have any
12 suggestions (indiscernible)?

13 BOARD MEMBER: Yes, Jenn.

14 MS. DANIELS: I always do. (Inaudible.) Two
15 things.

16 One, a couple months ago we discussed making sure
17 that we respond back at the next board meeting on the issues
18 that are brought forward to us at direct communications from
19 citizens. I just haven't seen that formalized or processed in
20 the (inaudible). I'd really love to see us have a pattern of
21 responding. Since we aren't allowed to, I want to make sure
22 that we are being responsive at the follow-up (inaudible)
23 addressing concerns (inaudible) likely will require some staff
24 effort on that part. So we'd really appreciate us creating a
25 cadence of communication.

1 On that same (inaudible) communications
2 (inaudible), I've heard you loud and clear, Greg, on the
3 localization of our teams up north and (inaudible) to the
4 individuals working extremely long hours to ensure that we have
5 safe roadways. I recognize that ADOT staff was in transition,
6 and so I tread lightly on this -- no pun intended -- on this
7 one, but really, the idea of how we are communicating these
8 issues and concerns and closures to the public. I just want
9 to make sure that we have a robust communications plan that
10 really does meet the residents and the travelers where they are,
11 and I know that there's -- it's multipronged, but I think it
12 might be good for us to refresh that communications plan and
13 update how we are (inaudible) particularly on those timely and
14 needed.

15 My kids were very happy to get stuck this last
16 week end in Flagstaff. Their mom not so much, but they were not
17 sad that they got to play some extra time in the snow. So we
18 appreciate again the work that so many are doing to keep our
19 roads clear. An extra vacation day is never a bad idea for high
20 schoolers.

21 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Richard?

22 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: Yes. Kind of on Board
23 Member --

24 MS. DANIELS: (Inaudible.) Keep the Jenns
25 straight.

1 VICE CHAIR SEARLE: Keep the Jenns straight.

2 Yeah.

3 On the notes, on the (inaudible) squared off on,
4 I wanted to go back to Supervisor English. Supervisor English
5 probably has as much tenure in the county -- in the state -- she
6 served on the Board of Supervisors in the early '90s. She left
7 and finished her career in education. Then she came back to the
8 board, I believe in 2008. The Naco highway has been an issue
9 with her for over 30 years, and I believe she deserves an
10 answer, and I would ask that as a future agenda item that we
11 have discussion and possible action on bringing in Cochise
12 County Naco highway into the ADOT transportation system. That's
13 it.

14 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Okay. Is there --

15 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, I just have a
16 few comments to --

17 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Yeah.

18 MR. ROEHRICH: -- talk about real quick on
19 future meetings. Just a reminder that the February 2nd virtual
20 study meeting is to discuss the tentative program. We're going
21 to start outlining from the planning element what is the
22 background for the tentative program, as well as to make a
23 project list and some of the other funding elements. So give a
24 overview of the financial from Kristine and then an overview of
25 what's in the tentative program from Paul. So that will be part

1 of it.

2 The second agenda item that we were doing is in
3 reference to a previous request from Board Member Daniels, and
4 that's of the public involvement process for the five-year
5 program. And what I will do is I will talk with our
6 communication team to roll (inaudible), Ms. Daniels, your
7 request now about just an overall communication plan for the
8 public. And so we'll address the public involvement approach
9 to it, but as well as what is our public plan on communicating
10 with the public. So I think we were planning already to do
11 that. We'll just expand the discussion to bring in the topic
12 that you've identified. We'll move that forward.

13 But I wanted to remind everybody that the
14 regular board meeting, which is an in-person with the virtual
15 option this February 17th, it will be in Oro Valley.

16 CHAIRMAN KNIGHT: Thank you, Floyd.

17 (Inaudible.) We've covered all of the agenda
18 items. Anybody on the Board have any other items at this time?
19 Hearing none, having completed this agenda, we're adjourned.

20 (Meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA } ss.

3

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 75 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 28th day of February
15 2023.

16

17

18

/s/ Teresa A. Watson

19

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

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Adjournment

Chairman Gary Knight adjourned the State Transportation Board Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m. PST.

Not Available for Signature

Gary Knight, Chairman
State Transportation Board

Not Available for Signature

John Halikowski, Director
Arizona Department of Transportation