

**STATE TRANSPORTATION VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING**  
**TELEPHONIC/WEBEX ATTENDANCE**  
**9:00am, March 15, 2024**  
**City of Casa Grande**  
**510 E. Florence Blvd.**  
**Casa Grande, Arizona 85122**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Richard Searle 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 Floyd Roehrich, Jr.**

A quorum of the State Transportation Board was present. **In attendance:** Chairman Richard Searle, Vice Chair Jenn Daniels, Board Member Ted Maxwell, Board Member Jenny Howard, Board Member Gary Knight, Board Member Jackie Meck and Board Member Jesse Thompson. There were approximately 69 members of the public on-line and approximately 43 attendees in person.

**Opening Remarks**

Chairman Searle 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 Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. Floyd also reminded individuals to fill out survey cards, with the 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

BOARD MEETING

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BOARD MEETING

VIA WEBEX AND IN PERSON AT:

City of Casa Grande  
510 East Florence Road  
Casa Grande, Arizona 85122

March 15, 2024  
9:00 a.m.

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

Perfecta Reporting  
(602) 421-3602

PREPARED FOR:  
ADOT - STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

(Certified Copy)

1                   REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF EXCERPT OF ELECTRONIC  
2 PROCEEDINGS, ADOT - STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD 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                   Richard Searle, Chairman  
10                  Jenn Daniels, Vice Chair  
11                  Gary Knight, Board Member  
12                  Jenny Howard, Board Member  
13                  Jackie Meck, Board Member  
14                  Ted Maxwell, Board Member  
15                  Jesse Thompson, Board Member

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CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

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Andrew Sutton, Eloy Council Member.....	9
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Priscilla Behnke, Maricopa Resident.....	14
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1 (Beginning of excerpt.)

2 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: And with that, we'll now move  
3 to the call to the public. Mr. Roehrich, we have how many  
4 online?

5 MR. ROEHRICH: So far, I've received two requests  
6 online and probably somewhere around 12, 15 in person.

7 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. Let's go ahead and do  
8 the in-person ones first. The -- those that are on  
9 telephonically, you will be muted until your name is called, and  
10 the directions are online. So with that, Mr. Roehrich would you  
11 please call the speakers?

12 MR. ROEHRICH: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Our first  
13 speaker is Mayor Craig McFarland. Mayor McFarland.

14 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: And please note, there is a  
15 three-minute time limit. We just know how the Mayor's going to  
16 be. That's all.

17 MAYOR MCFARLAND: I don't usually speak from down  
18 here, so I'm not familiar with the microphone, but first of all,  
19 I just want to welcome everybody to the City of Casa Grande, and  
20 if you want to say it Casa Grande or Casa Grande, either way is  
21 correct. So I'll get that out of the way first, because that's  
22 usually a question I get.

23 But just to -- you know, Mr. Chairman and Board  
24 Members, thank you guys for being here, and last night's dinner  
25 was amazing. It was one of the best I've had as well. So I

1 enjoyed myself. So thanks to the County and thanks to Lucid for  
2 that event.

3           Just two things that I wanted to bring up.  
4 Number one -- or three, to welcome you, and two road projects  
5 that are kind of important to the City of Casa Grande. One is  
6 the 387 pavement rehab. It was slated for the five-year plan  
7 and it was removed. It didn't make the cut, and I just wanted  
8 to reiterate how bad 387 is. That's our Pinal Avenue. It's the  
9 main -- it's one of our main corridors. It runs from I-10 to  
10 the Radisson Hotel, and it's literally falling apart. So if you  
11 get a chance to take a look at it, please do so. It will not  
12 survive -- it won't survive another year, so -- and we'll lose  
13 the road.

14           So anyway, that's -- I just wanted to  
15 re-emphasize how important that road is to us. It is our major  
16 transportation in and out of the city. It handles all of our  
17 truck traffic. We have 35 different industries that come in and  
18 out of the city. We are kind of an unusual situation where we  
19 have all this truck traffic that travels in and out of the city  
20 from our Tractor Supply to Wal-Mart distribution to Lucid, who  
21 has 100 trucks a day coming in and out of it. So it's just a  
22 huge amount of traffic, and it's getting beat up really badly.  
23 It hasn't been -- hasn't been -- really been touched, at least  
24 redone, in probably about ten years, so it needs some help.

25           The other piece is the 387, 287, 187, which is

1 the convergence at I-10 and Pinal Avenue. Because of all the  
2 traffic on I-10, which if you were in the Blackhawk, I don't  
3 know if you saw the accident that was backing up the west -- or  
4 the eastbound -- or westbound traffic on I-10. It was shut down  
5 yesterday. It was about an eight-mile backup. So anyway, it  
6 was pretty significant, and that's a regular occurrence these  
7 days on that stretch of I-10. And I know we've got money to  
8 widen I-10, so I appreciate that. So thank you for all the work  
9 that's been done there, but it's going to be a project, and it's  
10 going to take a while to get it done.

11 And the traffic comes through Sacaton now because  
12 everybody's avoiding I-10, and because they do, they come across  
13 that uncontrolled overpass at 387 and I-10, and our backup sits  
14 there for probably about three miles of people waiting to get on  
15 to the eastbound -- westbound lane of I-10, trying to go back to  
16 Phoenix, and so it's really a bottleneck. I don't know if  
17 there's a temporary signal that could be put in there or  
18 something that would help, and I'd appreciate any consideration  
19 you might have.

20 And again, thank you all for being here, and  
21 welcome to Casa Grande. Please spend some money before you  
22 leave. All right? Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you, Mayor.

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



1                   MAYOR SMITH: Hi. Thank you so much. I  
2 appreciate Director Toth and Chairman and the Board Members for  
3 allowing us to speak today.

4                   I first want to start off by thanking Chair --  
5 Board Member Maxwell and Representative Martinez, who is here,  
6 for coming to the city of Maricopa and seeing traffic on State  
7 Route 347. I understand the time that you were there was  
8 probably one of our busiest times, but I'm going to invite you  
9 back a little earlier to see when it's really maxed out, but I  
10 want you to know how much I appreciate that.

11                  I also want Greg to know, I noticed a new right  
12 turn lane on the Queen Creek exit off of I-10, heading east on  
13 I-10. You exit Queen Creek, and there's a new right-hand turn  
14 signal. I don't know if you knew I was going to notice that,  
15 but I noticed that, and it makes a big difference. So I want to  
16 thank you for that as well. I still would like that middle lane  
17 to be a right-turn only or a right and straight and not a left,  
18 so that's my final request on that intersection.

19                  But I'm here to talk about -- Board Member  
20 Maxwell, you made the comment about this region. This region is  
21 one of the fastest growing regions in the state, but also in the  
22 nation, and it is desperate for transportation needs, and  
23 specifically for us in Maricopa, State Route 347.

24                  We did notice in the five-year plan that the  
25 Riggs Road interchange is there. Did notice that the two funded

1 intersections are not on there, and so we would like to have  
2 those looked at in regards to including those on the five-year  
3 plan, and you should be receiving a lot of input on your five-  
4 year plan feedback form from citizens of Maricopa. You know  
5 they're active. They're busy. They want you to know how  
6 important this road is, and you should see a lot of feedback  
7 from them. We're encouraging them to make sure they respond to  
8 that five-year plan.

9                   So I appreciate all that you can do, and thank  
10 you for allowing me to speak. Thank you very much.

11                   CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you, Mayor Smith.

12                   MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Representative  
13 Teresa Martinez.

14                   MS. MARTINEZ: I'm going to go last. I'll go  
15 last.

16                   MR. ROEHRICH: She's going to go last. You get  
17 the call. Thank you.

18                   CHAIRMAN SEARLE: (Inaudible.)

19                   MR. ROEHRICH: She still gets three minutes,  
20 though.

21                   Next speaker is Supervisor Andrew Sutton. Excuse  
22 me. Council Member Andrew Sutton.

23                   MR. SUTTON: Good morning, Director Toth and  
24 members of the Board. My name is Andy Sutton. I'm a council  
25 member for the city of Eloy.

1           Before you is a letter from Micah -- from Mayor  
2 Micah Powell of Eloy. We in Eloy are seeking your assistance  
3 with funding to aid the redesign of the I-10 Sunland Gin Road  
4 interchange at Exit 109. This interchange has become a deep  
5 concern for the people of Eloy and as well as Arizona City and  
6 the surrounding areas. The current configuration of this  
7 interchange also impacts motorists on the I-10 as traffic backs  
8 up into the travel lanes of vehicles waiting to exit onto  
9 Sunland Gin Road.

10           As with the rest of Pinal County, Eloy and the  
11 surrounding areas are experiencing record growth, and our  
12 current infrastructure needs to evolve along with this growth to  
13 ensure a positive outcome for all. As outlined in the document,  
14 your support is crucial to making these improvements.

15           If you have any questions about this project, I  
16 have with me city manager from Eloy, David Malewitz, who has  
17 been working with this project for quite some time. I'd like to  
18 thank you all for your consideration on this important issue.  
19 Thank you.

20           MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mr. Dale  
21 Miller. Mr. Miller.

22           MR. MILLER: Good morning. I'm the engineer for  
23 the town of Quartzsite, and I'm here today to talk about the  
24 west traffic interchange at the town of Quartzsite. If you've  
25 been through Quartzsite of late, and particularly this time of

1 year, you know that that west traffic interchange is heavily  
2 congested, a lot of delays, and it's all exacerbated by  
3 significant truck traffic in that corridor, and there's pending  
4 developments in the community that's creating -- making the  
5 situation worse as time goes by.

6 So on behalf of the town of Quartzsite, they  
7 asked me to represent them today. I urge the Board to approve  
8 the Arizona SMART Fund application for the full design of  
9 improvements to that traffic interchange, including replacing  
10 that deficient and under height two-lane bridge with a new  
11 bridge, frontage road, intersection improvements and a lot more  
12 capacity to handle the forecasted traffic well into the future.

13 So on behalf of the Town, we urge you to approve  
14 that request. A benefit to the traveling public and to the  
15 region itself are huge and significant, and the Town intends  
16 on -- with approval of the design to take that design and market  
17 aggressively to secure grant funds for the construction of the  
18 project to assist with the funding on that stage of the project.  
19 So thank you very much.

20 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you for your comments,  
21 Mr. Miller.

22 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Ms. Irene  
23 Higgs. Ms. Higgs.

24 MS. HIGGS: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members  
25 of the Board and ADOT staff. My name is Irene Higgs, and I'm

1 the executive director for the Sun Corridor Metropolitan  
2 Planning Organization, MPO. We provide transportation planning  
3 services for the cities of Casa Grande, Coolidge, Eloy, and  
4 Pinal County.

5           This morning I would like to touch on two  
6 projects. The first project I would like to speak on is the  
7 corridor profile study for SR-87. This project was submitted by  
8 the Sun Corridor MPO through the planning to programming process  
9 for FY '25 through '29, and it was not selected. This 44-mile  
10 corridor functions as a regional traffic, recreational and  
11 tourist route while providing critical connections between the  
12 communities, between the communities that it serves and the rest  
13 of the region and interstate network. This corridor also serves  
14 as a critical route to detour traffic off Interstate 10 when a  
15 shutdown is required due to an accident.

16           As the population and economic development  
17 continue to increase in Pinal County, a completed study with  
18 sound recommendations for needed improvements will help ensure  
19 that we keep up with the future growth and demand in Pinal  
20 County, and also strategically align us to pursue federal grants  
21 through the USDOT.

22           Letters of support for this project have been  
23 submitted by the Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa  
24 Association of Governments, Pinal County, City of Coolidge, City  
25 of Eloy, and the Sun Corridor MPO. So we strongly urge ADOT to

1 please consider funding this profile corridor study.

2           The second project I would like to speak on is  
3 the I-10 Sunland Gin Road traffic interchange. I'm not going to  
4 talk too much on this, because Councilman Andy Sutton did a  
5 fabulous job, but this project was also submitted by the Sun  
6 Corridor MPO to be considered through the FY '25 through '29  
7 call for projects through the planning to programming process,  
8 and it was not selected.

9           The last design concept report for this traffic  
10 interchange was completed by ADOT in 2008 and is outdated. The  
11 current AADTs reported in 2022 were over 11,000 vehicles per  
12 day. The current configuration of this TI is creating  
13 congestion due to conflicts between the ramp traffic, the  
14 through traffic on the crossroads, and the traffic turning into  
15 and out of businesses. The off ramp traffic regularly backs up  
16 into the number two through lane on Interstate 10 because of  
17 congestion on this TI.

18           The City of Eloy was very successful in obtaining  
19 \$5.3 million from the State Legislature this past budget. Thank  
20 you, Representative Martinez. The off ramp -- the funding is  
21 being used by the City of Eloy to make substantial roadway  
22 improvements to the south of the TI on Sunland Gin Road to  
23 alleviate some of the congestion south of the TI.

24           We appreciate your consideration of this request  
25 and ask that ADOT please help us fund a study on I-10 Sunland

1 Gin. I would like to thank you for your time and careful  
2 consideration of both of these requests. We appreciate your  
3 commitment to the State of Arizona. Safe travels home, and have  
4 a great weekend.

5 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you, Ms. Higgs.

6 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Ms. Priscilla  
7 Behnke.

8 MS. BEHNKE: Good morning, members of the Board.  
9 I'm here as a resident of Maricopa representing parents and  
10 families that are facing conflict due to the long commutes on  
11 the 347. Parents can't be present and participate in activities  
12 with their children. Non-profits such as the one I run, "Be  
13 Awesome" in the Boys and Girls Club, have to extend our hours to  
14 meet the needs of parents stuck in the congested traffic.

15 For example, the Boys and Girls Club here in Casa  
16 Grande closes at 6:00; in Maricopa, 7:00. This is straining our  
17 resources. Those kids who don't have access to a Boys and Girls  
18 Club, Be Awesome, daycare or older brothers and sisters are  
19 being raised on TikTok. I've been talking to some school  
20 counselors about the havoc that that's wreaking in the school.

21 The number one predicting factor of a child's  
22 success is an involved mother and father, and I am respectfully  
23 asking you to make the 347 a priority for our Maricopa kids and  
24 families and the parents who want to be involved. Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you for your comments.

1 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker asked to bring  
2 two speakers up to share the time, Louis Kross and Christian  
3 Myleck. Gentlemen, thank you.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 1: Good morning,  
5 Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Our names are Christian  
6 Myleck and Louis Kroll, and we are from the non-profit "Be  
7 Awesome." According to a 2015 review by researchers, frequent  
8 family dinners can prevent issues with eating disorders,  
9 alcohol, substance abuse, violent behavior, depression and  
10 suicidal thoughts in adolescents.

11 A majority of the Maricopa workforce utilizes  
12 the 347, and overcapacity on the highways is causing -- excuse  
13 me -- causing delays for families. This makes a simple  
14 30-minute commute to work a two-and-a-half-hour trek just to  
15 return home.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: And this is costing  
17 families the priceless quality time that they could be spending  
18 with their family, children, and their other loved ones. Now,  
19 the longer that families are necessarily -- unnecessarily  
20 separated does more harm than good. There have been several  
21 occasions where we along with many of our friends needed to  
22 attend an event outside of Maricopa where leaving early turned  
23 into arriving late. In fact, we know several people who have  
24 had countless -- countless experiences that were bad on the 347  
25 and were forced to take a longer, less dangerous way.



1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 1: Further delays in  
2 improving the 347 will just continue to hurt families. Each and  
3 every day we wait, the more and more time we waste on this  
4 dangerous road we call the 347. Time is the one thing we can  
5 never get back.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: And we implore you all,  
7 members of the Board, to consider the long-term consequences of  
8 postponing this essential project. Our very own citizens risk  
9 their lives each and every day simply by driving on the road in  
10 its current state. We ask that you expedite the process of  
11 approved projects and consider new ones for the safety of our  
12 roads and for the people. Thank you for your time.

13 But, Mr. Chair, may we present these letters to  
14 you? They are from our fellow residents.

15 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Yes. Saved you bunch of  
16 postage.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 1: Thank you for your time.

18 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mr. George  
19 Arradondo.

20 MR. ARRADONDO: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,  
21 members of the Board. My name is George Arradondo from  
22 Coolidge. I happen to be candidate for a county supervisor, so  
23 I'm going to share some things that I've heard while I've been  
24 out.

25 State Route 505, I know it's in the books, and

1 it's going to take a while to occur, but people are asking.  
2 They want to make sure that continue to -- goes forward.

3 State Route 87, Skousen Road, there's a light  
4 interchange that you guys approved. It's processed two years  
5 ago. Right now, as I understand, it's in the bidding process,  
6 but I would hope as part of your bidding selection process that  
7 you would look at the -- who can get that light interchange  
8 sooner than later as you do that. Again, it's been two years,  
9 and we're still waiting for that.

10 I'll also bring up State Route 87, everybody's  
11 brought up there. It is an alternate route when I-10 goes bad,  
12 and I've lived in Coolidge for all my life, for the most part,  
13 when I've otherwise been out, (inaudible), doing other things  
14 with military. Whether it's floods in the 83, the spills or  
15 accidents that State Route 87 takes a lot of work to get people  
16 to and from Phoenix and Tucson, so any efforts that you can  
17 support that, it's very imperative that...

18 Also, I want to finish up with State Route 347.  
19 I can't tap out with these young man and women (inaudible) come  
20 here before you. Everybody's concerned about it. It's taking  
21 time from their livelihoods and concerns of accidents, so we  
22 would implore you to make sure we get the funds in support and  
23 research the State Route 347. Thank you for your time. Thank  
24 you.

25 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you, Mr. Arradondo.

1 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mr. Jim  
2 Ferguson.

3 MR. FERGUSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members  
4 of the Board. Thank you for allowing me just a moment to say in  
5 the eight years now that I've been over in Quartzsite, I don't  
6 think there's any issue that has been more important to us than  
7 some way taking care of the congestion that we see at  
8 Milepost 17 TI. It is just a critical part of the interstate  
9 there. Thanks to ADOT for the work you're doing over there  
10 right now.

11 Thanks to ADOT for the work you're doing over  
12 there right now to prove the -- excuse me -- 10 itself. That's  
13 been critical and is looking good, but the bottleneck is at 17,  
14 and if you've ever been over there the during the season, you  
15 know just exactly what I mean.

16 When I say "the season," I'm talking about the  
17 time when Quartzsite goes from a little town of about 3,000 to a  
18 city of about 300,000. There's that much difference,  
19 fluctuation. Believe me, my police department feels it, and so  
20 does that interchange. There have been times when I have sat at  
21 that bridge for almost ten minutes trying to get across because  
22 of the truck traffic mixed with all of the motorhomes and RVs  
23 that are coming in. So it's been a really very important issue  
24 to us.

25 These Arizona SMART funds, I believe, are made

1 for just this kind of an issue. We spent money ourselves, in  
2 cooperating with the Yuma office, have put together an  
3 alternative analysis. Quartzsite doesn't have a lot of money,  
4 so doing that was -- but doing that was so important to us that  
5 we kicked in those funds to make that happen, but now we need  
6 your help, and so I ask for your support today so we can move  
7 forward with a design that we can all feel good about there that  
8 will move traffic along 10 and -- and off and on again.

9 But thank you again for the cooperation that  
10 we've had from the ADOT staff and from the Board, and again,  
11 please, we would like your support today. Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you for your comments.

13 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Representative  
14 Teresa Martinez. Ms. Martinez.

15 MS. MARTINEZ: Thank you. I am State  
16 Representative Teresa Martinez, and the proper pronunciation is  
17 Casa Grande. I just want to make sure that the Mayor got that  
18 right. I am the also the majority whip in the House. My top  
19 priorities for the Legislature is expand -- is expanding and  
20 widening the I-10 between Casa Grande and Chandler. I am going  
21 to bird-dog that like you have no idea.

22 347, including the TI, protecting that money that  
23 representative, my predecessor, Bret Roberts got for the City of  
24 Maricopa, the I-10 interchange for Sunland Road, Eloy, State  
25 Route 24 -- I know that that's very important to Pinal County --

1 as well as State Route 88 and 87.

2 The pros. I'd like to commend and applaud ADOT  
3 on Director Toth's ability to jump in with both feet and get to  
4 work right away. I have never met and had a wonderful  
5 relationship with an agency director like I have with Director  
6 Toth. She is an amazing woman. Anthony Casselman is an amazing  
7 employee, and he needs a raise. And state engineer -- he puts  
8 up with a lot -- and State Engineer Greg has been -- has been  
9 amazing. Thank you, sir, for helping me.

10 The small changes that ADOT has made has been  
11 very appreciated. The small -- well, the signs that say  
12 commercial traffic over to the right between Casa Grande and  
13 Chandler have helped. They're not perfect. We still need to  
14 get the semis over to the right, but that helps. The light, the  
15 timing lights on the 347, making those lights greener helps.  
16 The stop sign, the four-way stop sign on Casa Blanca Road, that  
17 helps. We also have that right -- that right lane turn. Those  
18 little changes helps, but it puts me to the cons.

19 The cons is why did we have to wait so long to  
20 get those small changes that did not require a bill to be ran?  
21 Because I'm more than happy to run a bill and push it through  
22 the House and the Senate and work with the Governor's office in  
23 a partnership for this, but these small changes under Director  
24 Toth have been noticed and appreciated.

25 My concern is that it takes two years to select a

1 contractor for the TI and 347, now putting that money in  
2 jeopardy. It takes two years to put a light on Skousen Road?  
3 That's completely unacceptable.

4 Really, really quick, my commitment's to the ADOT  
5 agency. Right now there is a mood in the Legislature to make  
6 every agency two years. I understand there are some agencies  
7 that require a little bit more planning. To be completely  
8 honest, I will not support continuing ADOT for eight years. I  
9 will not, simply because of the two years that it's taken to  
10 select a contractor and two years to fix a light on Skousen  
11 Road. That's completely unacceptable. However, I will commit  
12 to you and to the public that I will continue the agency, and  
13 I'd be supportive of continuing the agency for six years, and  
14 that is going to be a fight.

15 I thank you for your time, and I want you to know  
16 the commitment to the -- to the infrastructure that is vital to  
17 Pinal County is my top priority, and with that I thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you, Representative  
19 Martinez.

20 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, that's all the  
21 in-person requests. Going online, our first speaker online will  
22 be Supervisor Bruce Bracker. Mr. Bracker, please raise your  
23 hand.

24 WEBEX HOST: Mr. Bracker, you have been requested  
25 to unmute your line. Please unmute your line. You are now

1 unmuted. You may speak.

2 MR. BRACKER: Thank you for helping me with that  
3 technology.

4 Chairman Searle, ADOT board, good morning and  
5 thank you very much for the opportunity to address you.

6 I'd like to talk this morning about the  
7 3.3 million AZ SMART grant application that we have in front --  
8 that Santa Cruz County has in front of you. It is in support of  
9 a \$16.5 million grade separated crossing of Potrero Creek and  
10 the Union Pacific Railroad just outside of Nogales. This  
11 money's been recently awarded -- this project has been recently  
12 awarded at 6.6 million Reconnecting Communities grant. On top  
13 of that, we have a Congressional delegation funding for  
14 \$3.6 million from Senator Kelly and Senator Sinema.

15 This road is just off -- this bridge is going to  
16 be just off the Ruby Road I-19 off ramp intersection. It is one  
17 of the fastest growing areas of our community, residential and  
18 also commercial. It feeds our main warehousing for produce and  
19 also maquila products that are coming from Mexico into the  
20 country.

21 This road also carries children -- parents and  
22 children going to work and going to schools, and it also has two  
23 miles into the community in a fire station. So this is also an  
24 emergency services issue for the area. So need you to support  
25 the (audio interruption). If you have any questions, County

1 Administrator Jesus Valdez is in the audience.

2 And in closing, I'd like to thank you for  
3 advancing the Ruby Road, Rio Rico Drive intersection projects to  
4 the five-year plan. We're looking forward to working with you  
5 in completion of that project. And thank you very much for your  
6 time this morning.

7 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you, Supervisor Bracker.

8 MR. ROEHRICH: Our next speaker is Mr. Darryl  
9 Ahasteen. Mr. Ahasteen, please raise your hand.

10 WEBEX HOST: You are now unmuted. You may speak.

11 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Ahasteen, are you there?

12 WEBEX HOST: You might want to also check where  
13 your audio is connected from. Sometimes if you're on a desktop,  
14 it can connect to the wrong audio. You go down to where it's  
15 mute and unmute. There's an arrow. You can click that and then  
16 change your audio.

17 I'm not hearing from him now. If you -- Darryl,  
18 if you wanted try to give me a call, we could have them try  
19 again after.

20 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, if -- as Bryce  
21 works with Mr. Ahasteen to see if we can get his audio to work,  
22 did you want to move on to another topic and then come back if  
23 we can make that connection?

24 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: That will work.

25 MR. ROEHRICH: He is our last request to speak.



1 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay.

2 MR. ROEHRICH: Bryce, I would ask you to continue  
3 to work with him. Call -- I think he did have a number on -- a  
4 phone number on his request. Please work and see if we can get  
5 that resolved. Then we can come back and open call to the  
6 audience again.

7 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right.

8 WEBEX HOST: Sounds good. Thank you.

9 MR. AHASTEEN: (Inaudible.)

10 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Ahasteen, we can hear you. Go  
11 ahead. Please make your comments. Well, he may be having  
12 difficulty. Mr. --

13 MR. AHASTEEN: Hello. Okay. We've been busy  
14 with our (audio interruption) calling in or anything, but we're  
15 still talking about moving that port of entry (audio  
16 interruption) to Pinta exit, which is about 22 miles to the  
17 west. There's another project that I need to start mentioning.  
18 (Audio interruption) bridge between Houck and Sanders called the  
19 Querino. It is a really old bridge. I think (audio  
20 interruption) over to Flagstaff, photographs, information  
21 forwarding letters. I need to find out who the council delegate  
22 is assigned to the Arizona state task force. So (audio  
23 interruption). End of my comment.

24 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Ahasteen, your connection  
25 is -- we are -- you're breaking in and out. We're having a hard

1 time following your comments and statements, because it keeps  
2 cutting out.

3 WEBEX HOST: I think he did complete his comment.

4 MR. ROEHRICH: Okay. Unless he asks to speak  
5 again, Mr. Chairman, that ends the call to the audience.

6 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right. Thank you,  
7 Mr. Roehrich, and we appreciate the comments this morning.  
8 Please note we really can't respond to anything that's not on  
9 the agenda, so -- but we do appreciate your comments.

10 Move to Item Number 1, the director's report.  
11 Director Toth.

12 DIRECTOR TOTH: Good morning, everyone. I want  
13 to thank the Mayor, council and staff for welcoming us to your  
14 beautiful city. I apologize. I was unable to join you last  
15 night, and I'm unable to be there today. I need to take my  
16 husband to an appointment at Mayo Clinic, and I hope I'll be  
17 able to stay for the entire meeting, but I may need to leave  
18 early, depending on the length of the meeting.

19 Last month I shared with the Board that ADOT is  
20 working on an update to our Strategic Highway Safety Plan. This  
21 is the plan that sets traffic safety priorities for the state,  
22 and it's updated every five years. I also shared that our  
23 Executive Committee had established a preliminary vision  
24 statement and goal for the plan. So as a refresher, our vision,  
25 creating a shared responsibility so everyone arrives safely

1 home, and our goal is to reduce life-altering traffic crashes 20  
2 percent by 2030.

3           Within the last month, our team has met again,  
4 and we've determined emphasis areas for the plan and have  
5 started to develop the stakeholder and public involvement plans.

6           Let me quickly go over the emphasis areas. As  
7 you can see on the screen -- next slide, please -- human  
8 behavior. This includes speed, impaired and distracted driving,  
9 as well as helmet and seat belt usage. Intersection, the focus  
10 includes railroad crossings and junction-related crashes, lane  
11 departures, as well as vulnerable road users and tribal. The  
12 tribal is one -- is a new emphasis area, and we'll cover the  
13 unique safety concerns related to tribal transportation.

14           I'll just state that there's a lot of overlap in  
15 each of these. It's hard to come up with a singular emphasis  
16 area, so there are a lot of crossovers in relation to the  
17 emphasis areas.

18           Next slide, please.

19           Our public involvement plan is still in  
20 development, but we expect to hold in-person meetings throughout  
21 the state along with separate virtual meetings. For our  
22 stakeholders, we're planning in-person safety workshops, fact  
23 sheets for state and local elected officials, along with tribal  
24 engagement meetings separate from the safety workshops. We'll  
25 also be reaching out to local agencies, tribes and non-profit

1 organizations.

2 As I mentioned last month, this is not just  
3 ADOT's plan. It is a statewide plan that needs buy-in and  
4 support from local jurisdictions. To really be successful and  
5 reach our goals, we're going to need that feedback and support  
6 from all of our partners, stakeholders and, of course, the  
7 public. As we move forward with our outreach efforts, we'll  
8 continue to keep you updated on the plan's progress.

9 So next I'd like to cover some of the comments  
10 that have -- were previous on 347, so I'm going to cover the  
11 projects that are outlined in the existing five-year program as  
12 well as the new five-year program. And this slide is  
13 interactive, so I'll give you a quick update on some of these  
14 projects. We've created a new graphic that shows all the  
15 projects on one map, along with information about the funding  
16 and timelines.

17 So if you'll click the first one up, we have the  
18 widening between I-10 and Maricopa city limits. The design is  
19 underway. It started last summer and is expected to take about  
20 two years to complete. You can see we have a construction cost  
21 estimate of 229 million, but this project is not currently  
22 funded for construction yet.

23 Next on the map is the Riggs Road and 347 traffic  
24 interchange. In cooperation with the Gila River Indian  
25 Community and other project partners, we have an environmental

1 and engineering study underway to evaluate the interchange  
2 design alternatives and select a preferred alternative. We're  
3 expecting to advertise the project in the fall of 2026.

4           Then moving on, we have the Mammoth Way. Also  
5 known as Cement Plant Access Road and Casa Blanca Road  
6 interchanges. Design is underway, and we anticipate advertising  
7 the projects for construction by early 2025. Work is expected  
8 to take approximately 12 months to complete. The reason it  
9 isn't shown in the tentative plan is because it is actually in  
10 fiscal year 2024 under the current five-year program. So rest  
11 assured we are continuing to move forward with this project.

12           Next we have the widening project from the city  
13 of Maricopa to Smith Enke Road. This project is underway, and  
14 it is adding a third northbound through lane. We also have some  
15 intersection improvements and pavement repairs that are part of  
16 the project as well, and we expect to be done in June.

17           And finally, we have the pavement rehabilitation  
18 between I-10 and Lakeview Drive. Design is underway, and we  
19 anticipate advertising in spring of 2026.

20           So the next slide shows a timeline for the  
21 projects in the region based on those calendar years. So you  
22 see the design, the construction and then when it would be open  
23 to traffic. I wanted to share these graphics just to show that  
24 there is a lot happening in the region, and we keep moving  
25 forward. Timelines and budgets always reflect our best

1 estimates and are subject to change, but this gives us a good  
2 indication of what drivers can expect.

3           Additionally, we're planning public outreach  
4 events, including some that are coming up soon. We will make  
5 sure that everyone gets notified.

6           I know there are many people who are very excited  
7 about these improvements, and we, of course, want to deliver  
8 those.

9           The next project I'll cover is the I-10 widening.  
10 Give you an update on the widening of that between Loop 202 and  
11 State Route 347. Construction begins with the total  
12 reconstruction of the I-10 projects -- I-10 bridges over the  
13 Gila River starting now. We have started some of that work in  
14 April. Actually, it will start in April. The prework has  
15 started. The design of the corridor between Gila River and  
16 SR-87 is 95 percent complete, with construction starting in mid  
17 2025, with completion expected in mid 2028. And the  
18 northernmost segment between Loop 202 and the Gila River will be  
19 a design/build, with construction anticipated to start in late  
20 2025 and wrap up in early 2028.

21           As you know, in partnership with the Gila River  
22 Indian Community, ADOT received a 95 million INFRA grant earlier  
23 this year to construct the southernmost ten-mile segment of the  
24 corridor. And just this week ADOT and the Gila River Indian  
25 Community met with FHWA to kick off the development of the grant

1 agreement and to meet the requirements of the U.S. Department of  
2 Transportation. FHWA expects a draft of this agreement in  
3 April, with execution expected in September of this year.

4 Finally, just an update on the environmental  
5 assessment. In collaboration with the Gila River Indian  
6 Community, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, FHWA, the Maricopa  
7 Association of Governments, we prepared an environmental study  
8 under the National Environmental Policy Act and an engineering  
9 study to evaluate improvements on I-10. MAG, BIA and the Gila  
10 River Indian Community have approved the environmental  
11 assessment, and the finding of no significant of impact is  
12 anticipated at the end of this month. This is all very good  
13 news and just represents the many steps forward that are being  
14 taken on the I-10 improvement project in this region.

15 And lastly, we are getting some snow up north.  
16 So next slide, please. I thought I'd wrap things up on a fun  
17 and a positive note by sharing the terrific response that we had  
18 to our Name A Snowplow contest. In mid January, Arizonans  
19 submitted about 3,400 names in the first phase of the contest,  
20 and we opened it up to voting, and more than 9,500 votes were  
21 cast. A lot of good participation. And after tabulating the  
22 results, the winning snowplow names were announced late last  
23 month, and they're Snowbi-Wan Kenobi, Fast and Flurryous, and  
24 Scoopacabra. These new names have already been placed on the  
25 driver's side of three of ADOT's snowplows, and it's really a

1 great, fun way to get the public involved, but it gives us a  
2 great opportunity to share safety messages around the winter  
3 weather driving, which is happening right now, actually.

4 And with that, I will hand things over to Anthony  
5 for the legislative report. Thank you.

6 MR. CASSELMAN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Board  
7 Members. Sorry I can't be there with you in person. I'll --  
8 hopefully if the session wraps up, I can start being there again  
9 in person.

10 I did want to just provide a couple quick updates  
11 on the legislative session. We've once again hit another  
12 critical point in the session, as next week is the last week of  
13 committee hearings outside of the two respective chambers'  
14 appropriations committees. As I've alluded to in previous  
15 meetings, this is a critical point in session, because it again  
16 narrows that field of bills that are out there and really gives  
17 us a good idea of what bills could potentially move forward to  
18 the Governor's desk.

19 Additionally, with the committee hearings being  
20 wrapped up, we should see and hear budget negotiations and  
21 budget conversations start to ramp up.

22 I did want to talk a little bit and provide a  
23 brief update on the ADOT continuation bills. The Senate version  
24 of the continuation bill moved out of the Senate this week.  
25 There were numerous amendments adopted to this bill as well,



1 including tying the length of the continuation to the  
2 implementation of the Auditor General's recommendations.

3 The House bill also moved out of the House this  
4 month. It has an eight-year continuation. The two -- the two  
5 bills are in very different formats, so further discussion will  
6 certainly be needed as to the continuation of the agency.

7 That concludes my update, and I'd be happy to  
8 answer any questions.

9 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any questions for Director Toth  
10 or Anthony?

11 VICE CHAIR DANIELS: Anthony, I have a question  
12 for you, and that is what discussion is being had? If the  
13 Legislature for whatever reason denied the continuation of ADOT,  
14 what would be the alternative program to implement road projects  
15 in the state?

16 MR. CASSELMAN: Mr. Chairman, Board Member  
17 Daniels, we really haven't had those conversations. I think the  
18 biggest conversation we've had is, again, our message is we  
19 would prefer a clean continuation bill. We're going to have to  
20 continue to talk with our partners at the Legislature and at the  
21 Governor's office to come to an agreement on the continuation  
22 bills.

23 VICE CHAIR DANIELS: So there's no alternative  
24 plan? It would just be continue with various amendments or  
25 don't continue at all?

1 MR. CASSELMAN: Mr. Chairman, Board Member  
2 Daniels, again, we really haven't had conversations about not  
3 continuing the department. It's just about what that  
4 continuation will look like.

5 VICE CHAIR DANIELS: Thank you. I just wanted to  
6 make sure that we understood from this perspective from this  
7 side of the table how -- what type of alternatives might exist,  
8 and I'm hearing none. So that's -- that's good news.

9 MR. CASSELMAN: Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Mr. Maxwell.

11 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you for the presentation,  
12 Director, as always. I really appreciate the detail on the  
13 SR-47 update. I think that's important for people as they keep  
14 advocating for SR-47. This is -- this is a sign of what you  
15 need to see to get things done, because a lot of times they say,  
16 well, just put money in it. We don't put money in our plans.  
17 We put projects in our plans, and they need to be worked  
18 through, and there needs to be thanks to that.

19 And I've talked with Floyd, and we'll be  
20 recommending that we do some more public outreach on how the  
21 process to get a project in the -- in the five-year plan works.  
22 It's something I think it's -- there's a lot of misunderstanding  
23 of how that works, but it really is project central, so I  
24 appreciate that update.

25 Anthony, my question's really for you. I spent

1 some time yesterday up at the Legislature, and you're right.  
2 There's nothing. I think we're going to have to rely on  
3 Representative Martinez and some of those other ones to come  
4 through with a good ADOT plan going forward for the  
5 continuation. I talked with a lot of them about the idea that  
6 we -- there will be some money that will be coming out that  
7 we've been previously authorized through legislative actions,  
8 out of some projects that some are in our five-year plan or  
9 they're definitely on our radar.

10 Have you heard any conversation amongst the  
11 Legislature on the amount of infrastructure money that we may  
12 lose or what some are talking about or what others are trying to  
13 prevent?

14 MR. CASSELMAN: Mr. Chairman, Board Member  
15 Maxwell, I've heard a little bit of conversation about it. I  
16 think just generally speaking, you know, everybody has sort of  
17 got their projects, and they're focused on their projects. So  
18 it's going to come down to, again, a lot of negotiations between  
19 which projects are going to be included in any General Fund  
20 recovery versus which projects are not, and right now,  
21 basically, what I'm hearing is there's just a lot of different  
22 lists, if you will, that are out there as to which projects  
23 would go and which ones would stay.

24 So it's very difficult to say how much money that  
25 would be at the end of the day. You've got -- the Governor's

1 got her General Fund recovery plan, and then I think the  
2 Legislature is sort of developing one of their own.

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

4 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any other questions?

5 All right. Thank you for your presentation.

6 Jesse.

7 MR. ROEHRICH: There we go. Just push it once,  
8 sir. There we go.

9 MR. THOMPSON: I'd just like to extend my  
10 appreciation to our director and also the comments that were  
11 made today, that to keep in mind that we really need to consider  
12 and express the needs of the rural communities, including tribal  
13 communities. Such a lot of things that has been done to their  
14 needs is a big gift to them in furthering their projects.

15 Again, I'd just like to say thank you, and I know  
16 that this is probably a big ask, but, you know, we need to keep  
17 in our mind that there are those small communities that really  
18 still need to be heard. So again, thank you, Chairman and  
19 members.

20 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Thank you, Mr. Thompson. And  
21 Director Toth, thank you for your time, and I hope everything  
22 works well with your husband and your appointment at the Mayo,  
23 so...

24 DIRECTOR TOTH: Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: With that, I will move on to

1 Item Number 2, which is district report. I saw Mr. Lane here,  
2 but I also see a note that there is no report, so...

3 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, we're going to  
4 be in this district three times this year, so we're letting the  
5 year and the construction wrap up, and there will be a district  
6 report later on when we -- when we meet. So for this month, we  
7 just -- but the state engineer will give -- as he's been doing  
8 will give a quick overview along all the districts with some  
9 major activity.

10 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right. So, Rod, you're off  
11 the hook.

12 So we'll now move to Item Number 3, which is our  
13 consent agent. Does any member have any item that they would  
14 like removed? Hearing none.

15 I would entertain a motion.

16 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair, move to approve the  
17 consent agenda as presented.

18 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: I have a motion by Mr. Knight.  
19 A second?

20 MR. THOMPSON: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Second from Mr. Thompson. No  
22 other comments?

23 All those in favor say aye.

24 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any opposed? Hearing none. It

1 is unanimously approved.

2 Move on to Item Number 4, our financial report  
3 from Kristine Ward.

4 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, Board Members,  
5 Ms. Ward does extend her apologies. An issue came up where she  
6 could not be here. So unfortunately, you're going to get me.

7 Next slide, please.

8 We have money, but not enough.

9 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Well, that's a great report.  
10 Thank you, Floyd.

11 MR. ROEHRICH: I wish we could do more.

12 Just a couple things she did point out real quick  
13 is we are pretty much on forecast, as you can see. 1.2 percent  
14 for this year -- excuse me -- for this month. So we're -- oh,  
15 am I jumping too fast for you? Can you get Item -- yeah --  
16 Number 4? There we go. Right there. Thank you.

17 So we're holding pretty steady to forecast, which  
18 obviously is a good sign. That means that the projects we have  
19 programmed, unless something drastically changed, are on track.  
20 So we're continuing to move that forward. So that's the -- the  
21 HURF funds.

22 Next slide, please.

23 Here are the actual amounts. If you look at what  
24 was forecasted and what was actuals, we are a little bit ahead  
25 of even last year, but right on her forecast. So financially,

1 we're still stable with the five-year program.

2 Next slide, please.

3 HURF funds, a little bit better. They're just  
4 above forecast, and that's been pretty steady through this  
5 fiscal year so far of staying just above forecast, which is  
6 obviously a good sign for the -- for the MAG region, as that  
7 continues to move forward.

8 Next slide.

9 You can see from what was forecasted to where  
10 we're at now, a few million dollars ahead, 3.6 percent ahead for  
11 the year. So that is continuing on. Again, helps with the  
12 region.

13 Next slide.

14 And she gave me nothing on the federal program  
15 other than we're still working with the continuing resolutions  
16 and with the funds that we have, and as Congress works their  
17 budget issues out with the administration, we're going to  
18 continue to deliver projects expected through the rest of this  
19 fiscal year. Our funding will be continued on.

20 So with that, that's the financial report.

21 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right. Thank you, Floyd.

22 Any questions for Floyd on this? All right. You  
23 dodged a bullet there, too. All right.

24 MR. ROEHRICH: Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Now move to Item 5 with

1 Mr. Patane, our Multimodal Planning Division.

2 MR. PATANE: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Board  
3 Members. Thank you for the opportunity to provide an update  
4 from the Multimodal Planning Division office.

5 Before we get started, I would like to introduce  
6 a new member of the Multimodal Planning Division team. It's  
7 Iqbal Hossain. He's been with the agency for 16 years. He's  
8 been in contracts and specs. So you see a lot of the work  
9 during the state engineer's report as far as the contractors'  
10 bids and stuff, and Iqbal will be the deputy director for the  
11 division, and so he'll be giving presentations as well, and  
12 along with the rest of the MPD team. So thank you.

13 MR. ROEHRICH: So let me get this straight. You  
14 took the guy that was doing your boss' work, the state engineer,  
15 you took him to do your work now, and you left your boss with  
16 nobody to do his work? I just wanted to make sure I understood  
17 that. Thank you.

18 MR. PATANE: (Inaudible.) That's how it is in  
19 ADOT. We just keep trading for you. No. New opportunities  
20 though. New opportunities.

21 So next slide, please.

22 So start off today with the tribal transportation  
23 update. Just the Southwestern Tribal Technical Assistance  
24 Program finished up this week. It was held in the Twin Arrows  
25 Conference Center. The summit created opportunities for ADOT



1 staff to share the resources and information with some of the  
2 tribal partners, along with BIA officials and representatives  
3 from ADOT and throughout the local region. So it was a very  
4 successful event, and I think -- Chairman Searle, I think Board  
5 Member Thompson may want to comment on that.

6 MR. THOMPSON: That summit brought in a lot of  
7 tribal leaders, local leadership from the various states,  
8 including New Mexico and I believe some Colorado and Utah, and  
9 primarily, most of the Native American leadership that were  
10 there. And a lot of information was exchanged among those that  
11 were present, including our staff from here. Those individuals  
12 who were assigned to do an outreach, those bodies here, Paula,  
13 Don, and also our right-of-way person was also there, involved  
14 and distributing information on how to move forward on some of  
15 the questions that they had and how to get involved and  
16 providing information about the needs.

17 And one thing that I thought was very interesting  
18 was that more and more we are being recognized by those local  
19 communities out there. And again, I do thank the Board as well  
20 as the administration to encourage our staff, including the  
21 outreach people there, our liaisons to continue to push this  
22 information out there.

23 There's a difference in working with communities  
24 out here. You pick up a phone. You call, use internet. Out  
25 there it's different. The community meetings are several weeks

1 apart, and sometimes it's really hard just to be able to catch  
2 them through the phone or internet. So you -- the best way to  
3 do it as I know it, in all these years in my public (inaudible)  
4 to be there, to let them know that you're there. So again, I  
5 just wanted to bring that out, and I thought this was one of the  
6 ways of bringing everybody together. So again, thank you, Paul.

7 MR. PATANE: Thank you.

8 So moving on to some of our northern region  
9 activities. And these summits are great opportunities where  
10 they get together and -- with quite a few people, but these  
11 regional activities is where there's a lot of boots on ground,  
12 and this is where we get to really get one-on-one with some of  
13 these tribal -- our tribal partners here, and that way we can  
14 either further expand on different areas if it's operations,  
15 traffic safety, how to get projects in the program. The topics  
16 vary. A lot of it's operations related, but these -- you know  
17 these conferences are great, but these meetings that we have  
18 throughout the -- you know, since the last board meeting are  
19 very productive, and that's how we understand what some of the  
20 community concerns are.

21 Then there's southern activities as well, and so  
22 we had meetings with the White Apache Tribe (sic), the Tohono  
23 O'odham Nation, along with the San Carlos Apache Tribe as well.  
24 Again, going in there with typical operation needs or just  
25 letting them know how projects get into the program and in our

1 P2P process as well, so...

2           Then just on our -- a big push from our traffic  
3 safety section is getting -- trying to get more of the tribal  
4 communities on the TraCS system, the implementation. And the  
5 TraCS system is -- this is software used where they can input  
6 data on the types of crashes that are happening throughout the  
7 areas within the tribal communities. This crash data is  
8 essential for us as we begin to, you know, determine where those  
9 high crash locations are, but also try to find the root causes  
10 of those crashes, that way we can implement the appropriate  
11 countermeasures in those locations.

12           So just -- I'll turn to some of the studies that  
13 we've got going within the division here, and so it's important  
14 that we're always trying to take a look ahead as well to make  
15 sure we're being proactive as we operate and maintain our  
16 highway system.

17           The first one is the Climbing and Passing Lane  
18 Study that's being updated. It was recently completed in 2015.  
19 So the purpose of the update would be to look at reprioritize  
20 the locations. You know, as time goes on, traffic volumes  
21 change, traffic patterns change, communities grow, and there's  
22 different needs throughout the -- throughout the state system.  
23 So we'll reassess all those locations that we did in 2015, and  
24 then we'll reprioritize the list and try to get some of those  
25 projects into the program. Typically, those projects are

1 usually funded through the modernization program.

2           Next slide, please, is the -- an update to the  
3 ITS architecture update. Here we're looking to, again, just  
4 update the previous study, and here we're looking to really plan  
5 and develop where we're going to invest with our technology.  
6 It's important that our systems are up-to-date and current, but  
7 also that they're -- we have a common framework as MAG and the  
8 PAG regions have systems as well. It's important that all this  
9 technology can talk to one another. That way we can get some  
10 cases, you know, messages to motorists, and, you know, our DMS  
11 message signs play a critical role in advising motorists of  
12 traffic conditions throughout the state. So this schedule or  
13 the current schedule for this is we're near completion. Should  
14 have it done by this -- later this summer.

15           Then on to some of our other studies. This is  
16 the Douglas Port of Entry Connector Road. Again, we're -- here  
17 the scope of the work is a design concept report, an  
18 environmental clearance. We're moving along, and we've got a  
19 couple hiccups along the way with some additional requirements  
20 related to air quality, but we're still looking at --  
21 anticipating completion of a DCR, which would -- which would  
22 prepare us to go into final design later toward the end of this  
23 year.

24           Next is the State Route 505, also known as  
25 North-South Corridor. Here we're on the Tier 2. Here we're

1 going to produce a -- the deliverables are an environmental  
2 impact statement along with the design concept report. And so  
3 what this study does here -- in the Tier 1 document provided us  
4 around a 1,500-foot corridor, and so what this -- what this --  
5 the scope of this work will narrow down that corridor to 400  
6 foot where we have a specific alignment and right-of-way  
7 footprint to lead into final design. Our schedule here is we're  
8 looking to complete it in late 2026. There's just a lot of data  
9 collection and mapping looking for -- trying to map out the  
10 correct alternatives that will be presented to the public.

11           Next we have the Sonoran Corridor. Again, this  
12 is a Tier 2 document as well, and so we've started off the  
13 beginning of the year, but things are picking up. We have our  
14 agency scoping meeting scheduled for March 27th in Tucson.  
15 We're looking forward to hearing input from many of the  
16 stakeholders along the corridor. Our anticipated completion for  
17 this project at this time is September '26.

18           And just a quick update on the five-year -- the  
19 tentative five-year program. As you know, public comments went  
20 out -- the request for public comments went out March 1st, and  
21 so we're -- so far to date, we have approximately 200. We'll  
22 provide a detailed report in the April board meeting of the  
23 comments received to date. Specifically, we'll break them down  
24 into category routes. So you'll get a more detailed report, but  
25 just wanted to let you know that you're soliciting comments.

1 Things are moving forward, and also on the slide is the dates of  
2 the upcoming meetings and necessary action.

3 Any questions?

4 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Questions for Mr. Patane on  
5 this multimodal report?

6 Mr. Maxwell.

7 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah. Paul, I just wanted to say  
8 thank you for giving us an update on the Tier 2 studies. Those  
9 were something important that we got through the Legislature,  
10 and just glad to see them moving.

11 MR. PATANE: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right. If there's no other  
13 questions.

14 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, I do have one  
15 comment. During call to the audience, those two gentlemen had  
16 left you a series of letters.

17 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Correct.

18 MR. ROEHRICH: What I recommend is we take those  
19 letters, we add them to the database as comments on the five-  
20 year program, because the projects and the references they list  
21 at are being deliberated as part of the five-year program.

22 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. All right. Let's go  
23 ahead and move to Item Number 6, PPAC projects.

24 MR. PATANE: Okay. Chairman Searle, Board  
25 Members, for your consideration, recommended changes to the

1 FY 2024-2028 Transportation Facilities Construction Program.  
2 New projects, Items 6A through 6G.

3 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Are you going to present these  
4 items?

5 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, as we  
6 traditionally have done, we are lumping them together as all one  
7 motion unless you choose to pull them out or you want them  
8 presented separately.

9 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Mr. Maxwell.

10 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair, I move that we approve  
11 Items 6A through 6G --

12 VICE CHAIR DANIELS: Second.

13 MR. MAXWELL: -- as recommended.

14 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any -- I have a motion for 6A  
15 through 6G. Is there a second? I have a second from Jenn.

16 Are there any questions on Items 6A through 6G?  
17 Mr. Maxwell.

18 MR. MAXWELL: It's more of a clarification  
19 because I believe I understand it, but I think if you look at  
20 Item 6C, which you don't see a picture of because it is a --  
21 it's establishing a new project that's going to be funded, as I  
22 read it, through the Federal National Electric Vehicle, the  
23 NEVI, that was part of the IIJA; is that correct? So this is an  
24 example of the projects where we're approving it because we need  
25 to, but the funding is going to be requested from the federal

1 government. If it does not come through, then we're not on the  
2 hook for the 1.2 million; is that correct?

3 MR. PATANE: Correct. This -- the action here,  
4 there's -- there's two funding sources, one from the NEVI  
5 program, which is federal. Then there's description -- the  
6 other one is from the privatization fund, which is State  
7 funding. So the -- to use the NEVI funds requires 20 percent  
8 match. 80/20.

9 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: And this is to cover public-  
10 private partnership advisory consultant costs associated with  
11 the solicitation for developers for EV infrastructure  
12 implementation along the interstate highways.

13 Okay. I've got questions about that myself, but  
14 the funding is clear.

15 MR. ROEHRICH: Well, Mr. Chairman, what questions  
16 would you have about the use of our P3 consultants?

17 MR. MAXWELL: Mr. Chair, can I follow up with a  
18 question? Because I think I know what you're getting at.  
19 That's why -- one of the reasons I wanted to confirm that the  
20 1.2 was coming through the IIJA, but now what I'm hearing is we  
21 need a 20 percent match in order to get those funds.

22 As we discussed when we approved the original  
23 product plan, there was a lot of concern on this board about the  
24 role that the State funds would have in funding private ventures  
25 as part of this program. We have a 20 percent match required



1 here, but when it gets to the part of the actual commitment of  
2 the 76.1 million to actually construct these sites, do we have  
3 required matches for each one of the construction projects as  
4 well?

5 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Maxwell,  
6 yes, we do, but if you remember, when we presented it, and what  
7 we presented in our NEVI plan to the federal government is this  
8 is what the solicitation will do. When we bring in those  
9 private entities to construct, operate, and maintain those  
10 sites, they are responsible to bring in the 20 percent match of  
11 private funds to access the NEVI funds.

12 Because we don't have private funds available now  
13 for this, you know, preconstruction phase, this procurement  
14 phase, that the State's on -- you know, we're taking on that  
15 role, obviously, to get them on board. That's why we're using  
16 the State funds through a public-private partnership, the 20  
17 percent match to those funds, which is how we've pretty much  
18 developed P3 projects in the past is when we had to match  
19 certain funds, it was preconstruction -- you know, we would work  
20 through this fund, but once it got to construction, private  
21 entity, then would bring in those matching funds.

22 MR. MAXWELL: So I guess I would ask, Paul, and  
23 Floyd is -- if we have any estimate of other funds that may be  
24 required or other parts of this program prior to -- I understand  
25 once construction starts, we're going to have private partners,

1 and they will be bringing the matching funds. That will not  
2 come out of the State budget.

3 MR. ROEHRICH: That is correct. Yes, sir.

4 MR. MAXWELL: But if there's -- as -- because  
5 every time this comes up, we have a discussion about what the --  
6 how much state funds are going to be supporting this program.  
7 So I guess I would ask for a briefing at some point on what  
8 other aspects of getting to the point we're now going at using  
9 the P3s with the private firms to build these EV sites. What  
10 can we expect to have in front of us between the time the  
11 private funds come in and the time everything's ready to go?

12 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chair, Mr. Maxwell, we can  
13 go back and work with the major projects team. We will put that  
14 planning together. I don't have that information directly in  
15 front of me, but we will go -- we'll get that information. It's  
16 just -- this is only the funds necessary to get this procurement  
17 out on the street so we can hire those private entities to come  
18 in, because they'll put together their proposal with their  
19 funding proposal, their financing, whatever, construction  
20 schedule, things necessary to access those federal funds, but  
21 they have to bring in the financing to access those federal  
22 funds.

23 MR. MAXWELL: I appreciate the answer, Floyd and  
24 Paul, and it just -- this was just a clarification that -- the  
25 public-private part, so that when the folks watch this, they

1 understand that the public part's coming from the federal  
2 government through the IIJA, and -- but in this case we have to  
3 bring some money forward, but not when we really execute the  
4 projects. That's going to come from private funding.

5 MR. ROEHRICH: For the construction, operation  
6 and maintenance, yes.

7 MR. MAXWELL: Correct.

8 MR. ROEHRICH: You asked are there other actions  
9 that we would put State fundings for, and I don't know that.  
10 That's where I need -- think we need to ask the major projects  
11 team that are putting the whole schedule together. After this  
12 procurement phase, what will be our commitment during private  
13 entity implementing their proposal once we adopt the one that  
14 we -- that we want.

15 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you, Floyd. That's just the  
16 core of the question.

17 MR. ROEHRICH: Okay.

18 MR. MAXWELL: I just didn't want it to be a  
19 continual, oh, the State has to pay, the State has to pay --

20 MR. ROEHRICH: Right, right. And that -- in a  
21 year we come back and we're chiseling away at State funds  
22 because we need another match for something. I don't know what  
23 it is, but what we will do is we will ask our major projects  
24 team to put that together so we can come back at a later date,  
25 but we're only asking for the funds necessary to do this

1 procurement phase.

2 MR. MAXWELL: Okay. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: And this -- these funds are for  
4 consultants to advise us through the -- to -- to solicitation.  
5 Is that what I'm understanding here?

6 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, that is correct.  
7 The way our public private partnership is, those are such  
8 complex type projects, as the NEVI, our staff has -- you know --  
9 you know, we have experience in administering federal programs,  
10 but this is such a new program and the breadth of what this  
11 program means is probably something we don't have experience in.

12 Our P3 consultants, we brought them on board, did  
13 include the requirement for them to have expertise in NEVI,  
14 because we knew that program was coming, and so now we are going  
15 to tap into their expertise and their team that they proposed to  
16 us that would be supporting us in that -- in that activity. So  
17 this pays for that.

18 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: So these consultants are  
19 already online -- on board then? There's not going -- this --

20 MR. ROEHRICH: Mr. Chairman, that is correct.  
21 They're on board. We've been negotiating the (inaudible) for  
22 it. We already have them under contract. Now we're negotiating  
23 the (inaudible), and this pays the tax to get them started.

24 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: 1.2 million, that seems like a  
25 lot of money for this, but anyhow... All right. Do we have any

1 other questions? I have a motion and I have a second. I'll go  
2 ahead and call for the vote.

3 All those in favor say aye.

4 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

5 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any opposed? Motion carries.  
6 Item 6H through 6JC. Or is it just J? I guess  
7 it's just J.

8 MR. PATANE: Chairman Searle, Board Members, for  
9 your consideration are the recommended changes to the  
10 FY 2024-2028 Transportation Facilities Construction Program  
11 project modifications 6H through 6J.

12 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any -- can I have a motion for  
13 the recommended --

14 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair.

15 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: -- modifications?

16 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair, I move to approve Item 6H  
17 through 6J as presented.

18 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right. Mr. Knight.

19 MS. HOWARD: I'll second.

20 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: And I have a second by  
21 Ms. Howard.

22 Any questions or comments on the items, H through  
23 J?

24 I just noticed H is a -- is in my district, and  
25 it is the delay for the Cochise railroad overpass for a year.

1 Are there no other questions or comments?

2 All right. All those in favor say aye.

3 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

4 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Chairman votes aye. Any  
5 opposed? Item passes.

6 Move to Item Number 7. Arizona State Match  
7 Advantage for Rural Transportation. Mr. Patane.

8 MR. PATANE: Thank you, Chairman Searle, Board  
9 Members. Today we have five AZ SMART applications for your  
10 consideration, and we'll go through these, but first I'd like to  
11 tell you some of the enhancements that we made to the website.

12 Just real quick, we added where you can click on  
13 the link to get to the balance of the program, what's available  
14 in AZ SMART funding. So that would hopefully help the locals in  
15 determining what available funding is there. So that was an  
16 enhancement. And also, the sheet below it, the graphic below it  
17 showing all the projects, you can also -- able to see all the  
18 projects that have been awarded by the Board as far as the AZ  
19 SMART funds. It will provide those resources to those who need  
20 it.

21 Just real quick, on the eligibilities, again, the  
22 reimbursement up for grant development, it can be used for  
23 counties with a population of 100,000 or less, and also, the  
24 grant development can be used for cities and towns with a  
25 population of less than 10,000. The SMART fund can be used for

1 reimbursement, a match for federal grant, also reimbursement for  
2 design and other engineering services that are needed to meet  
3 the federal requirements for projects.

4 So the AZ SMART applications, they're related to  
5 these the grant programs. The three grant programs these  
6 applications are connected with are the RAISE, the Rural Surface  
7 Transportation Grant Program, along with the Reconnecting  
8 Communities Pilot Program.

9 So the first request is from Navajo County.  
10 They're requesting design and engineering services in the amount  
11 of 170,000. The work would be to perform a project assessment  
12 and necessary to develop a scope and schedule and budget for the  
13 project. The project will improve sidewalks, bike lanes and  
14 other multiuse paths, and also with the goal of improving the  
15 walking and bicycling to school. The applicant intends to be a  
16 direct recipient, and they will pursue the 2025 RAISE grant.

17 The next application is from Santa Cruz County.  
18 It's for the Ruby Road Bridge over Potrero Creek and the Union  
19 Pacific Railroad. The request is for the 3.3 million for match.  
20 The new bridge will provide a reliable east-west connection for  
21 all the traveling public. The applicant is requesting ADOT to  
22 administer the project. The applicant will be pursuing a 2024  
23 Reconnecting Communities pilot grant.

24 MR. MAXWELL: Which I believe they received.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They've received.

1 MR. PATANE: Okay. That was -- they received the  
2 2023. Excuse me.

3 MR. ROEHRICH: We only know -- found that the  
4 other day. When we prepared these slides, we didn't know that.  
5 And that was a very recent -- and congratulations to the -- to  
6 the County and the locals for receiving that. That was a great,  
7 great receipt to get that grant.

8 MR. PATANE: So the next AZ SMART request is from  
9 the Town of Quartzsite. You heard two of the members from the  
10 call to the audience speak about the project. They're  
11 requesting 3.4 million for design and engineering services. The  
12 applicant will request ADOT to administer the grant, and the  
13 applicant, the Town of Quartzsite, will be pursuing a 24-25  
14 Rural Transportation Surface Grant.

15 The next application is for Pinetop-Lakeside for  
16 the Pinetop Commons Road and Bridge. They're looking for -- the  
17 request is for \$174,600 for design and other engineering  
18 services. The intent is to expand the town to the north side of  
19 the Billy Creek. Applicant intends to be direct recipient, and  
20 they will be pursuing the RAISE grant round in the 2024 round.

21 Then the next application here from AZ SMART is  
22 from the City of Yuma. They're requesting \$3,537,057 for match,  
23 and they were recipient -- the City was a recipient of a RAISE  
24 grant in 2021, and the applicant intends to be the direct  
25 recipient. And this request here is from the ADOT portion of



1 the AZ SMART fund, and this will support a turnback of the I-8  
2 South Frontage Road that the City has agreed to to take in -- to  
3 take off the state highway system, into the city system, as a  
4 collaborative effort in allowing this match to be used.

5 So the -- just a recap of what's available for  
6 awards. That's highlighted in yellow there. Then as you can  
7 see, the pending request amounts are on the bottom there.  
8 That's what -- that's what the request is. Approval of pending  
9 requests, that's what the action will be today, and so...

10 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Can you go back to that slide?

11 MR. PATANE: Yeah.

12 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Back up just -- thank you.

13 So the municipalities greater than 10,000 will be  
14 about maxed out. Is that what we're looking at?

15 MR. PATANE: Yes. You'll have the balance -- if  
16 these requests get approved, the balance for municipalities  
17 greater 10,000 is 310,565.

18 MR. MAXWELL: But we have no pending --  
19 Mr. Chair.

20 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Go ahead.

21 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah, but we have no pending  
22 requests (inaudible). That action occurred prior to this, so  
23 the pending requests --

24 MR. PATANE: Right, right.

25 MR. MAXWELL: -- are all in the other categories.

1 MR. PATANE: Yeah. The requests for the amounts  
2 are in the total under pending requests. That's...

3 MR. MAXWELL: And can you remind us the time  
4 frame that -- when the next year's additional funds that were --  
5 as long as they don't get taken out of the budget would come  
6 back into pump each one of these categories back up. Does that  
7 occur July 1st or 90 days after the Legislature leaves?

8 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, Board Member  
9 Maxwell, it would happen if they pass the legislation, and it  
10 would depend upon if they say --

11 MR. MAXWELL: (Inaudible).

12 MR. ROEHRICH: -- (inaudible) or if they say  
13 it's, you know, part of the law coming in. It really depends  
14 upon how the Legislature appropriates it.

15 MR. MAXWELL: Understand. I  
16 was just curious the time frame, because, you know, last year  
17 when we got towards the end of the --

18 MR. PATANE: Right. Uh-huh.

19 MR. MAXWELL: -- fiscal year, we started talking  
20 about how much money would be there or if we should slide one  
21 and which ones had to have priority. I was just curious on when  
22 we were going to get more funds added to this. I'm also  
23 curious, which I'm assuming at some point people (inaudible)  
24 about what the changes to the -- could occur to the program  
25 based on the SMART Fund, rural SMART Fund that they --

1 legislation that is moving through right now.

2 MR. ROEHRICH: If it's in the budget bill, those  
3 are automatic. So that would start July 1st.

4 MR. MAXWELL: Okay. Thank you.

5 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair.

6 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Mr. Knight.

7 MR. KNIGHT: I'm really glad to see that we're  
8 getting all these applications for SMART funding, because my  
9 biggest fear is the Legislature knows that they're dealing with  
10 a deficit. We haven't been for the last two or three years, but  
11 this year and next year, looks like we are. So my biggest fear  
12 is if we have money left in these SMART fund pots and they're  
13 trying to balance a budget, they will sweep that money back. It  
14 is State funds, so they will sweep that money back to try to  
15 balance their budget. So I'm happy to see that we're getting  
16 all these applications so that we can encumber that money so  
17 that it can't be swept. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Go ahead, Paul. Finish --  
19 yeah.

20 MR. PATANE: So we have the requested actions.  
21 Chairman Searle, Board Members, this will require two separate  
22 motions, the ADOT portion would -- needs to be a separate motion  
23 by itself.

24 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: The ADOT does?

25 MR. PATANE: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: The last one?

2 MR. PATANE: Yes, sir.

3 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. All right. And is -- do  
4 we see any need -- for the other five, can we -- does anyone  
5 have any issues that we just do one motion?

6 All right. I would entertain a motion to approve  
7 the five requested actions for Navajo County, Santa Cruz County,  
8 Quartzsite, Pinetop-Lakeside. One, two, three -- yeah. There's  
9 four. Yes.

10 MR. ROEHRICH: (Inaudible.)

11 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Yes.

12 MR. THOMPSON: Chairman, I would (inaudible)  
13 motion to approve the funding for the four submittal of the  
14 applications for SMART grant.

15 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right. I have a motion  
16 from Mr. Thompson to approve Navajo County, Santa Cruz County,  
17 Town of Quartzsite, and Pinetop-Lakeside applications. Do I  
18 have a second?

19 MR. MECK: Second. I have a second from  
20 Mr. Meck. Any additional questions or comments before I call  
21 for the vote? Seeing none.

22 All those in favor say aye.

23 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

24 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any opposed? Hearing none, it  
25 passes unanimously.

1 I will now take a motion to approve the requested  
2 action for ADOT for the -- for Yuma Multimodal Transportation  
3 Center project.

4 MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair.

5 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Mr. Knight. Why would you want  
6 to approve this --

7 MR. KNIGHT: I don't know why I'd want to do  
8 this, but I move to approve the ADOT match for the Yuma  
9 Multimodal Transportation Center Project in the amount  
10 requested.

11 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: I have a motion by Mr. Knight.  
12 Do I have a second? I thought it was going to fail for a  
13 second.

14 VICE CHAIR DANIELS: I gotcha.

15 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right. Thank you,  
16 Ms. Daniels.

17 I have a motion and a second. That would have  
18 been interesting to fail for lack of seconds. Yeah. But  
19 anyhow... If there aren't any questions or comments, I'll call  
20 for the vote.

21 All those in favor say aye.

22 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Chair votes aye. Item passes  
24 unanimously.

25 Item Number 8.

1 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair,  
2 and Board Members.

3 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. Item Number 8,  
4 Mr. Byres, state engineer's report.

5 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Board  
6 Members. Start off here. We've had 88 projects under  
7 construction. We're at 2.1 billion. Four projects have been  
8 finalized in the month of February. We're at 21.6 million. And  
9 fiscal year to date, we have had 40 projects finalized.

10 So I'm going to kind of go through what we've got  
11 going on across the state. These are just some of the projects  
12 kind of highlighted by our different districts. So starting off  
13 in the Southcentral District, we have a project on I-10. This  
14 is the Ina to Ruthrauff. Our gap project is what we're calling  
15 it. That is currently under construction. Anybody that's been  
16 driving through Tucson over the last year or so has been driving  
17 through the middle of this project. We have another project on  
18 I-10. This is the Country Club to Kino. Currently it's in the  
19 design build procurement process. We have a project on I-19,  
20 which is the Irvington TI. That's currently in design. And  
21 then a project on SR-90 that runs from the Border Patrol Station  
22 to Moson Road down in -- near Sierra Vista, so...

23 The next one is in Northcentral District. We  
24 have a project on US-89. This is the North Lake Powell  
25 Boulevard roundabout. Anybody that's been up going through to

1 Lake Havasu goes through that section through there. We have a  
2 project on SR-64. This is a pavement pres. project -- or  
3 preservation project, I should say -- between Milepost 185 and  
4 201. That project is currently in development. And another  
5 project on I-17. This is a replacement bridge project. This is  
6 the JW Powell Bridge as you approach coming into Flagstaff at  
7 Milepost 337.

8           The next one is Southwest District. We have a  
9 project on I-10. This is the Scaddan Wash-Plomosa project.  
10 This is a pavement preservation project from Milepost 24 to 30.  
11 We have a project on US-60. This is also a pavement project --  
12 a pavement preservation project, Milepost 45 to 49. And then a  
13 project on US-95. This is the another section of the total  
14 project going out to the Yuma Proving Grounds. This section is  
15 from Rifle Range Road to Wellton Mohawk Canal, and it is a  
16 widening and bridge project.

17           Southeast District, we have a project on US-60.  
18 This is from Schulze Ranch to town of Miami. This is drainage  
19 improvements on the US-60 coming into town there. We also have  
20 another project on US-70. This is a westbound passing lane  
21 between Milepost 288 and 289. We're scheduled for advertisement  
22 of that project coming up in '25. January '25. We also have  
23 another project on US-191. This is a pavement rehab project  
24 which goes from SR-266 to SR-366.

25           For the Northwest District, we have a project on

1 US-93 that runs from Legend Ranch Road down to Date Creek Ranch  
2 Road. These are various improvements along that stretch. Also,  
3 the West Kingman TI on I-40 and 93, which is -- runs from  
4 Milepost 83 to 84. This is part of the improvements of the West  
5 Kingman TI. We also have Cane Springs, which is on US-93. This  
6 is a widening going -- taking that section to four lanes, two  
7 lanes in each direction, from Milepost 105 to 110.

8 For the Northeast District, we have a project on  
9 SR-87. This is a Coyote Wash Bridge. This is a replacement of  
10 the superstructure. Work on that begins in April. We have a  
11 project on I-40, which runs from Pinta to McCarrell. This is a  
12 pavement preservation project that should be beginning middle of  
13 April. We also have a project on Business 40 in Holbrook. This  
14 runs from Crestview to Joy Nevine, with the bidding for that  
15 project coming up in April, and another project on 377, which  
16 runs from SR-277 to the Forest boundary, and work begins on that  
17 project coming up middle of June.

18 The last one we have is Central District. We  
19 have several projects within the Phoenix region. We have one on  
20 SR-101. This goes from Princess to Shea. That's currently  
21 under construction. 7 percent complete with 6 percent of the  
22 time spent. So we're a little bit ahead of schedule there. We  
23 have another one on SR-101, which is the 16th Street screenwall.  
24 It's almost complete, and it is ahead of schedule as well.  
25 Another project, which is SR-347 at Lakeview Boulevard, which



1 has kind of been documented throughout this meeting. We're at  
2 53 percent complete, with 62 percent of the time spent on that  
3 project. We're a little behind schedule on that one. And we  
4 have another project, which is US-60X, Sossoman to Meridian.  
5 Currently 3 percent complete with 3 percent of the time spent.  
6 So we're on schedule for that. And that concludes the  
7 engineer's state engineer's update.

8 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Mr. Byres, on the Southeast  
9 District, I believe the emergency repairs on that 191 overpass,  
10 they're going to demolish the bridge this coming week?

11 MR. BYRES: Yes. That's correct. So they've  
12 pretty much completed the shoo-fly on it, so once it is  
13 complete, they can take and divert traffic, and they'll demolish  
14 the bridge.

15 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any other members have any  
16 questions? Mr. Maxwell.

17 MR. MAXWELL: I don't know if I'll get in trouble  
18 for doing this, but for the state engineer and for the Board, I  
19 do want to acknowledge the Southcentral District engineer,  
20 because Rod Lane has recently been announced that he's going to  
21 be departing ADOT to join the County. He'll continue to be  
22 working in this and will have a major impact on that region.

23 But we made the comment earlier there was no  
24 south -- you know, district report today. I thought that was  
25 letting him off awfully easy, so I'm going to bring it up that

1 he may be here, sitting in the back, not saying anything, but  
2 he's had years of service with the department and done an  
3 incredible job. He's been with one of the municipalities even  
4 prior to that and in our region, and in Pima we're very grateful  
5 to have him continue to still work, but you can see how large  
6 that Southcentral District is on this side, and the fact of it,  
7 it actually cuts across four different counties, so it affects  
8 multiple of our districts when we talk about the districts  
9 representing not just the projects.

10 So I wanted to acknowledge the outstanding work  
11 that Rod Lane's put -- accomplished in the past for ADOT, and he  
12 knows I will continue to hold him accountable, because he can't  
13 get away from me as I'm on the RTA board because of this  
14 position, and we look forward to having him in Pima County  
15 still. So appreciate all the work, Rod.

16 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Hopefully he had already told  
17 ADOT his plans.

18 MR. MAXWELL: Like I said, I -- when I -- when I  
19 said I'm taking a chance now, I might get in trouble, but I saw  
20 enough smiles from the people that's he's been working with.  
21 I'm not sure if those are smiles because they're glad to see him  
22 go or if they were glad to hear that --

23 MR. ROEHRICH: He did inform us --

24 MR. MAXWELL: -- he's (inaudible).

25 MR. ROEHRICH: -- but we are not glad to see him

1 go, but he has been a great professional. Worked in multiple  
2 districts for us, and yeah. So wish him all the best as well,  
3 and I know he does report through Greg, and he notified Greg  
4 very early on, and we've been kind of ignoring it hoping it was  
5 just a rumor and not fact, but it doesn't look that way.

6 MR. MAXWELL: No. I think we're going to --  
7 somebody's going to have some shoes to fill. Thank you, sir.

8 MR. BYRES: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Lane is a big loss  
9 for ADOT. It's great for him. I'm glad to see that he's  
10 sticking around in the region, and we'll still be working with  
11 him, but he has had an extreme impact on Southcentral District.  
12 His work there has -- has just been great. His work with PAG  
13 and the RTA as well as the municipalities within the region.  
14 He's going to be sorely missed.

15 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any other questions for  
16 Mr. Byres at this time?

17 All right. You're off the hook. Very good.  
18 We'll move to Item Number -- no, you're not off the hook. We're  
19 going to Item Number 9.

20 MR. BYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Board  
21 Members. We have a total of seven projects that we're bringing  
22 forward today. Five of those you've already passed with the  
23 consent agenda. Thank you very much.

24 Going on to kind of look at where we're at for  
25 the year to date, right now we're somewhere in the neighborhood

1 of a little over \$55 million under our construction estimates  
2 for projects. That's extremely good, because what that's doing  
3 is bolstering our contingencies for additional projects. So  
4 that money turns right around and gets reutilized as quick as it  
5 possibly can,

6           So with that, the first project we have is  
7 Item 9A. This is a bridge replacement project on US-60. We had  
8 five bidders for this project. The low bidder's estimate for  
9 production -- or let me go through the numbers here. The low  
10 bid was \$13,707,564. State's estimate was \$11,349,271, a  
11 difference of \$2,358,293, or 20.8 percent under the engineer's  
12 estimate -- or excuse me -- yeah, under the engineer's  
13 estimate -- or over. Excuse me. Over.

14           The low bidder's estimate for production rates on  
15 concrete placement was lower than that of the State's estimate.  
16 The bid pricing for the drilled shaft piers were also higher  
17 than estimated. After the analysis of the low bid, it appears  
18 to be a responsive and responsible bid, and we recommend award  
19 to FNF Construction, Inc.

20           CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Okay. I would entertain a  
21 motion.

22           MR. KNIGHT: Mr. Chair.

23           CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Mr. Knight.

24           MR. KNIGHT: Move to award the contract to FNF  
25 Construction for Item 9A.

1 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: I have a motion by Mr. Knight.

2 MR. MECK: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: A second by Mr. Meck. Any  
4 other questions or comments before I call for the vote? Seeing  
5 none.

6 All those in favor say aye.

7 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

8 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any opposed? The motion passes  
9 unanimously.

10 MR. BYRES: Thank you.

11 The next item we have is Item 9B. This is bridge  
12 construction for the town of Clifton over the Chase Creek --  
13 it's the Chase Creek Bridge. The low bid was \$2,197,112. The  
14 State's estimate was \$1,282,920. A difference of \$914,192, or  
15 71.3 percent over the engineer's estimate.

16 We had one bidder on this project. The one bid  
17 that was received for the project is considerably higher than  
18 estimated. The local agency has decided not to pursue the  
19 additional funding needed for the project, so therefore we  
20 recommend rejection of all bids. The City is looking at  
21 rescoping the project and bringing it forward at a later date.

22 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: All right. Ms. Howard.

23 MS. HOWARD: Is this a rebid on this project?  
24 Didn't we bid this once before and had the same...

25 MR. BYRES: I don't remember this --

1 MS. HOWARD: No.

2 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: I believe we delayed --

3 MR. BYRES: Yeah, there was a delay on it.

4 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: This was on our agenda and we  
5 delayed it.

6 MS. HOWARD: We delayed it. Okay. That's what  
7 it was. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Any other questions?

9 You know, this is my district, so I'll go ahead  
10 and make the motion to reject all bids on 9B.

11 MR. MAXWELL: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: So I have a motion by myself  
13 and a second by Mr. Maxwell. Any other questions or comments?  
14 Seeing none.

15 All those in favor say aye.

16 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

17 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Chairman votes aye. Any  
18 opposed? Passes unanimously.

19 MR. BYRES: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Now you're off the hook.

21 So moving on to Item 10, suggestions of -- for  
22 future board meeting agendas or topics.

23 Mr. Maxwell, I believe you had one.

24 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yeah. We  
25 talked before a little bit with Floyd saying he knew this was

1 going to come, but I do think it's important for both us as the  
2 board every once in a while as we change out members to get a  
3 briefing. So I'd like to add to a study session briefing on  
4 what the process is for communities and municipalities and  
5 others to get projects into the five-year plan so that they  
6 understand. I think today's briefing was incredibly helpful,  
7 but a lot of times we just hear people, we want more money for a  
8 project or for a road, but if there's not a project there,  
9 that's difficult.

10 So I'd appreciate if we could do two things.  
11 One, put it on a study session for our edification, and then  
12 also to explore how we can do outreach either with -- through  
13 the COGs like you suggested or -- the Chair had leaned over to  
14 me -- when we're doing some of these public outreach topics, if  
15 we're already getting folks together to talk about one topic, if  
16 it doesn't disrupt the flow of that, it might be an opportunity  
17 to at least have a couple slide -- or short conversations about  
18 how you can move projects forward within the ADOT system.

19 MR. ROEHRICH: So, Mr. Chairman, Board Member  
20 Maxwell, yes, I have your two topics down, that you wanted.  
21 That we will work on as well as a longer range plan look at what  
22 may be other state funding needs for implementation of the NEVI  
23 program.

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

25 VICE CHAIR DANIELS: I can add one more, maybe

1 tack on to that a little bit. I think Representative Martinez  
2 brought up a great point about the length of time that it takes  
3 to sometimes accomplish smaller tasks or what we would consider  
4 to be meaningful but possibly just sort of shifts in behavior,  
5 and so what we might need to do, and to follow that -- I know  
6 there's a procurement process that we have to follow, a variety  
7 of loopholes and different -- excuse me -- hoops that we have to  
8 jump through in order to accomplish a lot of those things. So  
9 if we could tack that on to the process or to what you're  
10 saying, Ted, I think that would be really helpful for us as a  
11 group as a study session item. We want government to move  
12 faster, too.

13 MR. ROEHRICH: Yeah, and we do, too. We don't  
14 sit on our hands just hoping that things get done. So  
15 absolutely. That -- I think that is a great (inaudible),  
16 because it's not only projects. Some of those things are  
17 operations issues as well that we would need to talk about as an  
18 agency, because -- yeah. Absolutely. Uh-huh.

19 CHAIRMAN SEARLE: Yeah. Anything else?

20 All right. Seeing none, I think we've  
21 accomplished everything we were supposed to do today, so this  
22 meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

23 (Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.)

24

25



## C E R T I F I C A T E

1  
2  
3 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were  
4 reported by Teresa A. Watson, RMR, Certified Reporter,  
5 Certificate No. 50876, State of Arizona, from an electronic  
6 recording and reduced to written form under my direction; that  
7 the foregoing 71 pages constitute a full, true, and accurate  
8 transcript of said electronic recording, all done to the best of  
9 my skill and ability.

10 DATED at Phoenix, Arizona this 8th day of July  
11 2024.

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17 /s/ Teresa A. Watson  
18 Teresa A. Watson, RMR  
19 Certified Court Reporter  
20 Certificate No. 50876  
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**Adjournment**

***Chairman Richard Searle adjourned the State Transportation Board Meeting on March 15, 2024.***

**Meeting adjourned at 10:54a.m. PST.**

Not Available for Signature

Richard Searle, Chairman  
State Transportation Board

Not Available for Signature

Jennifer Toth, Director  
Arizona Department of Transportation