Arizona Laying the Groundwork for Future I-11

After investing more than half a billion dollars over the past 20 years to turn the primary route between Phoenix and Las Vegas into a modern four-lane divided highway, the Arizona Department of Transportation has committed another $155M for improvements to US 93 over the next five years.

All of this is with an eye toward an Interstate 11 between the two largest cities in the country not directly connected by an interstate freeway and spanning the state from the border with Mexico to Hoover Dam. Since 2014, signs have marked US 93 in Arizona as the “Future I-11 Corridor.”

“ADOT has spent years investing in the future Interstate 11 and laying the foundation for this border-to-border highway,” ADOT Director John Halikowski said. “We’re putting the pieces together today for what I-11 will be in the future. These substantial and continuing investments show our commitment to a corridor that is essential for commercial and recreational travel and also to making Arizona a better place to live and work.”

In addition to the completed and planned improvements to US 93, a $134M ADOT project beginning next year will upgrade State Route 189, the 3.75-mile Nogales highway connecting Interstate 19 with the Mariposa Port of Entry. This route is essential to trade between Arizona and Mexico, the state’s largest international trading partner.

In 2015, the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act, or FAST Act, formally designated I-11 throughout Arizona. It stated the I-11 corridor will generally follow State Route 189 and Interstate 19 from Nogales to Tucson, Interstate 10 from Tucson to Phoenix, and US 93 from Wickenburg to the Nevada state line.

The designation doesn’t include funding but identifies I-11 as a high-priority corridor eligible for federal funding. ADOT continues to work with its federal, state and local partners to identify funding for I-11, which is expected to include a combination of new and existing roadways.

ADOT is currently funding and conducting an environmental study to identify a potential 2,000-foot wide corridor for I-11 between Nogales and Wickenburg. The Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement, required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is expected to be complete in late 2019 or early 2020. Tier 2 environmental studies would be required to narrow a corridor into a specific freeway alignment if the build option is selected as part of the Tier 1 study.

As I-11 comes closer to reality in Arizona, US 93 would be upgraded to interstate highway standards, including creating traffic interchanges. Currently all but 39 miles of the 200-mile drive from Wickenburg to the Nevada state line has been upgraded to a four-lane divided highway to improve traffic flow, support the movement of freight and enhance safety through this heavily traveled area. The entire northern segment of US 93 from Kingman to the Nevada state line (mileposts 1 to 68) is now a four-lane divided highway following the completion of a $71M project in 2010.

ADOT’s 2019-2023 Five-Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program includes more than $155M dedicated to projects to improve US 93 from Wickenburg to the Nevada state line north of Kingman, the designated route of I-11. This includes three projects that will widen an additional 11 miles of US 93 to four-lane divided highway and the start of right-of-way acquisition for a new US 93 interchange with I-40 in Kingman.

For more information about I-11 in Arizona, visit i11study.com/Arizona.
Use Coaching Skills to Handle Difficult Conversations
By Steve Feld for Greater Phoenix SCORE

Many owners and leaders have confided in me that one of the most difficult aspects of their job is those difficult conversations with their employees. A lot of those leaders either ignore them or hope they will go away by themselves. But wishful thinking is not managerial thinking. Leaders need to know how to put things right.

A 5-POINT PLAN

1. IT’S ONLY DIFFICULT IF YOU THINK IT IS
Drop the idea that this will be a “difficult” conversation. Remember that you have the right to raise the issue if it is something that affects you or the people you are responsible for. You don’t have to justify, explain or excuse yourself.

2. EVEN WHEN IT’S PERSONAL, DON’T MAKE IT PERSONAL
The only feeling you should express is a desire to help the other person. Discuss what the person is doing and what they can do differently. This is not about who they are.

3. EASE YOUR WAY IN
In any conversation that deals with personal issues, it is best to ease your way in while not misleading the person about the subject under discussion. Start with, “How are things going?”; move on to facts, proceed to their views, and finally to how they feel.

4. LINK YOUR FEEDBACK TO A BUSINESS ISSUE
If you are the team leader, you need to relate everything in the conversation to business issues. For you, it’s about “what” — what they are doing and what they can do differently.

5. HAVE A NEUTRAL SPOT WHERE YOU CAN BOTH GO IF THINGS BECOME AWKWARD
If people become defensive, back off by going to a neutral third spot where you can both look at the behavior dispassionately. Don’t challenge them by saying something like, “Your personal hygiene needs to be improved”. Instead, say something like, “Let’s try to figure out why you and I see this issue differently.”

DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS: YOU CAN SUCCEED

Difficult conversations are unavoidable in the workplace but, given the right approach and the right skills, they can be managed. You should aim to put emotions, stress, and personal issues aside and bring behavior, performance, and the business center stage.

Read the full article at Greater Phoenix SCORE.

Officials Seeking Sonoran Corridor Input
Source: Arizona Department of Transportation

Nearly halfway through a three-year environmental study, state and federal transportation officials want input on a proposed Sonoran Corridor connecting Interstate 10 and Interstate 19 south of Tucson International Airport.

The Arizona Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration will hold a public information meeting from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26, to hear public comments and suggestions for the Sonoran Corridor. The meeting will be held at the Desert Diamond Casino, 7350 S. Nogales Highway in Tucson. A presentation will begin at 6 p.m.

The Sonoran Corridor has been designated as a high-priority corridor under the federal Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act. It would support and connect the economy of southern Arizona and the entire state. It also would reduce travel distances south of Tucson and relieve congestion at the current interchange of I-10 and I-19 southwest of downtown Tucson.

State and federal officials are identifying and studying a range of possible corridors along with the opportunities and constraints of each. The study considers the potential social, economic and natural environment impacts of the alternatives, as well as the impact of not building a freeway in this area.

The Tier 1 Environmental Impact Study is a three-year process developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. Expected to be completed in 2020, the Tier 1 study is evaluating multiple 2,000-foot-wide corridor alternatives that would connect I-19 and I-10 south of the Tucson International Airport. The study will evaluate a no-build alternative and multiple build alternatives to determine a recommendation based on technical analysis and other factors, including public input.

A future Tier 2 environmental study would advance the Tier 1 recommendations to identify the specific project alignment, effects and mitigation. There is no timeline or funding identified for the Tier 2 study.

For more information about this study, please visit azdot.gov/SonoranCorridor.
### DBE News & Events

**September 25, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td><strong>For(u)m: Fall Subcontractor Expo</strong></td>
<td>2200 East Riverview Drive, Phoenix</td>
<td>1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td><strong>Excavation Competent Person &amp; Hazard Recognition</strong></td>
<td>1661 N. Swan, Suite 144, Tucson</td>
<td>1:00pm - 5:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td><strong>Minority Small Business Education Seminar</strong></td>
<td>NAU, 15451 N 28th Ave, Room 284, Flagstaff</td>
<td>9:00am - 1:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td><strong>The American Indian Chamber Golf Classic</strong></td>
<td>9998 East Indian Bend Rd, Scottsdale</td>
<td>Registration opens at 6:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td><strong>Arizona Innovation Day</strong></td>
<td>Virginia G. Piper Auditorium, 600 E Van Buren</td>
<td>9:00am - 2:00pm</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td><strong>Greater Phoenix Chamber’s Economic Outlook 2019</strong></td>
<td>Sheraton Grand Phoenix</td>
<td>7:00am - 10:00am</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td><strong>Improve Your Cash Flow on Delay &amp; Disruption Claims</strong></td>
<td>ABA, 1661 N Swan #144, Tucson</td>
<td>8:00am - 4:00pm</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td><strong>Professionalism: Importance of Building Your Brand</strong></td>
<td>Esplanade, 2501 E Camelback Rd. #50</td>
<td>3:30pm - 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td><strong>2018 ADOT DBE and Small Business Conference</strong></td>
<td>Embassy Suites, 5001 N Scottsdale Rd.</td>
<td>1:00pm - 7:00pm &amp; 7:00am - 2:00pm</td>
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<td>26-27</td>
<td><strong>Regular Dealer in Disadvantaged Business Enterprise</strong></td>
<td>Webinar</td>
<td>1:00pm - 3:00pm EST</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td><strong>ACICAZ 2018 Chamber Luncheon</strong></td>
<td>Casino Arizona, 524 N 92nd St, Scottsdale</td>
<td>11:30am - 1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td><strong>hive@central’s 4th Annual Business Expo!</strong></td>
<td>College Depot, 1221 N Central Ave, Phoenix</td>
<td>10:00am - 12:00pm</td>
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**October**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>How to Prepare a Shareholders’ Agreement</strong></td>
<td>Skysong Synergy I, 1365 N Scottsdale Rd #135</td>
<td>8:00am - 9:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td><strong>October Luncheon: Women Icon</strong></td>
<td>Phoenix Country Club, 2901 N 7th St, Phoenix</td>
<td>11:30am - 1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td><strong>Insurance Requirements for ADOT Contracts</strong></td>
<td>ADOT BECO 1801 W. Jefferson St.</td>
<td>11:30am - 1:00pm</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td><strong>Professional Services DBE Task Force Meeting</strong></td>
<td>ADOT BECO 1801 W. Jefferson St. Ste. 101</td>
<td>9:00am - 11:00am</td>
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**November**

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<tr>
<td>7-9</td>
<td><strong>Construction in Indian Country National Conference</strong></td>
<td>Wild Horse Pass Casino, Chandler</td>
<td>7:00am - 6:00pm</td>
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### ADOT/BECO Events

**DBE TASK FORCE MEETINGS**

- **Oct 23** - **Professional Services Task Force**  
  ADOT BECO 1801 W. Jefferson Ste. 101, Phoenix  
  Time: 9:00am - 11:00am

- **Nov 13** - **DBE Construction Task Force**  
  ADOT BECO 1801 W. Jefferson Ste. 101, Phoenix  
  Time: 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Did you know?

Vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) communication is the ability to wirelessly exchange information about the speed and position of surrounding vehicles. It is fundamental to the development of automated (self-driving) vehicles.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has been working with the automotive industry and academic institutions for more than a decade to advance V2V communication’s lifesaving potential into reality.

ADOT Bid openings after January 1st, 2017 will require prime contractors to submit DBE affidavits within 5 calendar days from bid opening. This is two days less than the current requirement. For example, if the bid opens on Friday, the DBE Affidavits will be due to BECO, from the prime contractor, by Wednesday before 4:00 PM. Therefore, this is reducing the time DBEs and prime contractors have to prepare, sign and submit the DBE Affidavits to BECO. DBEs are urged to consider this new time restriction when working with prime contractors to complete and sign the DBE Affidavits in order for them to be submitted to BECO by the 5th calendar day from bid opening.
You’ve Got Questions? We’ve Got Answers

A free resource designed to make it easier for you to do business with ADOT!

Find us at:
http://www.azdot.gov/businesscoach

The answers you need are right at your fingertips 24 hours a day!

CLICK HERE to VIEW INFORMATIONAL VIDEO
Connecting with Connect 202

As construction continues on the South Mountain Freeway Project, Connect 202 Partners, LLC (C202P) remains committed to reaching the project’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goals. C202P has developed a DBE Spotlight Recognition Program and each quarter a DBE firm will be recognized for their outstanding contribution to the project.

C202P’s 3rd Quarter 2018 DBE Spotlight is awarded to LS Fence, LLLP. LS Fence is an exceptional DBE subcontractor with quality, efficiency, and professionalism displayed in their work. LS Fence plays an integral part to the project by setting up yard fences/gates project wide, installing pond fences, and installing critical fencing needed for temporary construction easements and culturally sensitive areas. They most recently were awarded the Permanent ROW Fence for Segments C&D. Their fast response and willingness to fulfill urgent requests allows work to continue without any interruptions. It is easy to recognize a company that signifies what it takes to be successful at their specialized scope of work and C202P appreciates the hard work demonstrated by each LS Fence employee. Congratulations!

Upcoming Procurement Opportunities:
- None at this time

Follow us for up-to-date information on the project.

@SouthMountainFreeway
@Loop202SouthMountainFreeway

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Owner:
Arizona Department of Transportation

Project Name:
SR 202L (South Mountain Freeway)
I-10 (Maricopa Freeway) – I-10 (Papago Freeway)

Public Private Partnership (P3)
Design-Build-Maintain Contract

Project Number:
202 MA 054 H882701 C

Project Substantial Completion Date:
November 2019

DBE Goals:
16.45% Professional Services, 10.93% Construction, 6.08% Capital Asset Replacement Work

Committed DBE Percentages:
Professional Services = 16.76%
Construction = 11.02%

Over $109 Million Dollars Awarded!