

SONORAN CORRIDOR STUDY

September 26, 2018

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

AND ARIZONA DEPARTMENT

OF TRANSPORTATION

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Welcome

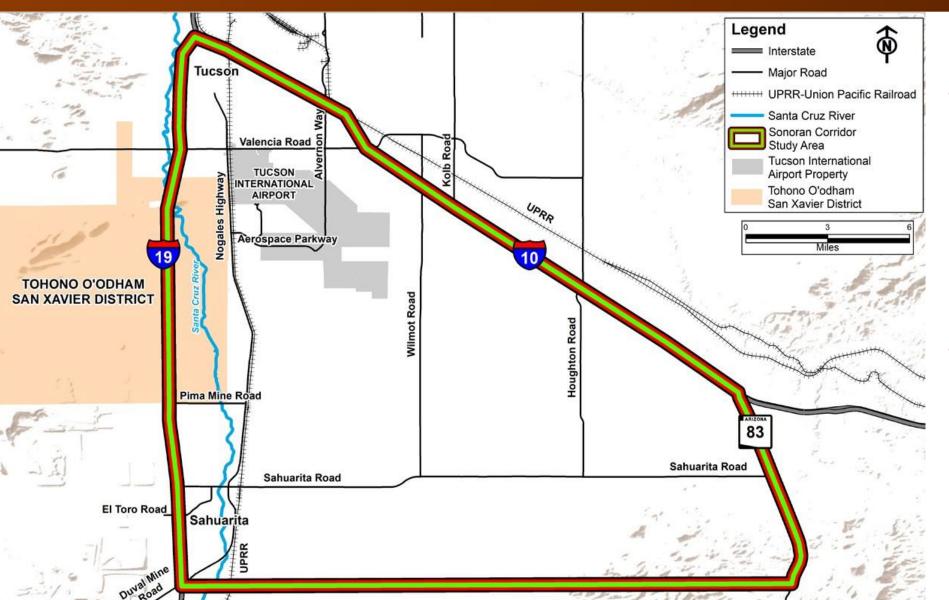


Overview

- Need and Purpose Overview
- Evaluation Methodology Review
- Development of Corridor Alternatives
 - Engineering Requirements
 - Corridor Connections Refinement
- Study Process Status
- Next Steps

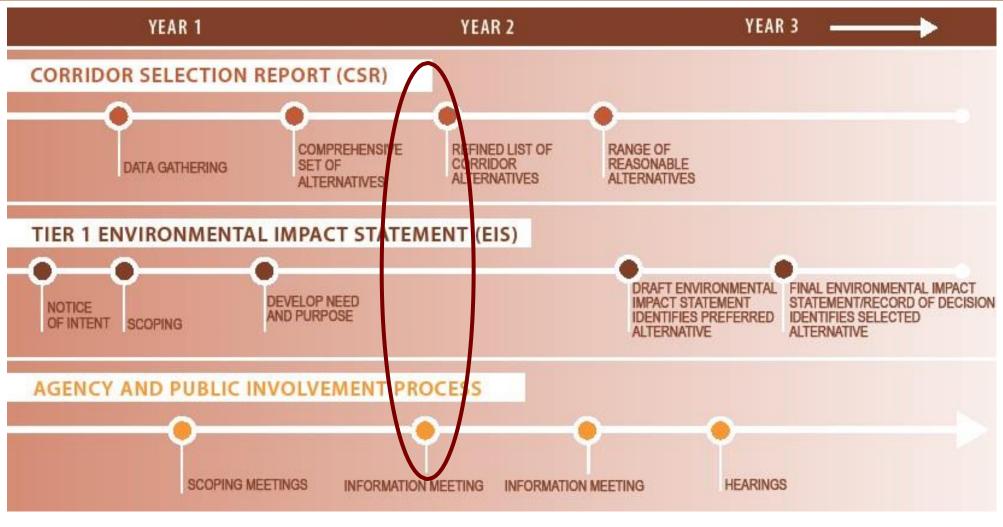


Study Area



The Sonoran Corridor was designated by Congress in the **FAST Act** as a high priority corridor connecting I-19 to I-10, south of Tucson International Airport

Sonoran Corridor Study Status



We are here

Need and Purpose

Need

- Projected substantial population and employment growth in the corridor
- Additional system linkages for regional and interstate mobility
- Reduced congestion and increased roadway capacity

Purpose

- Accommodate future travel demand
- Provide alternate direct connection between I-10 and I-19 south of TIA to reduce commercial and commuter travel times and cost
- Improve 2045 Level of Service within study area

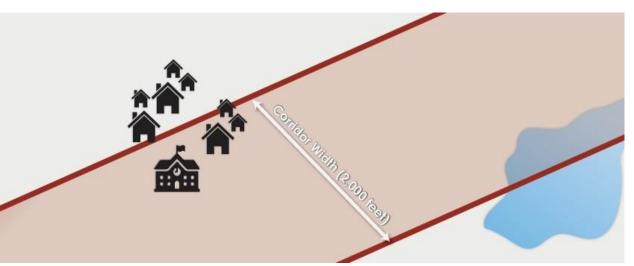


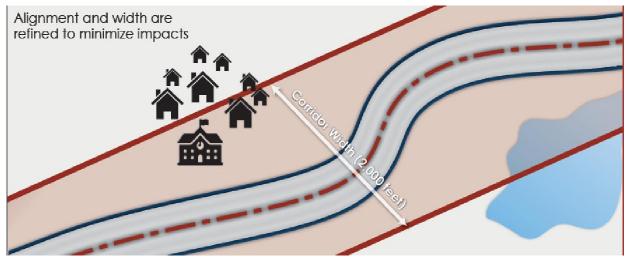
Evaluation Categories

- Anticipated Growth
- Mobility
- System Linkages
- Economic Benefit
- Environment
- Constructability



Tiered Environmental Review Process





Tier 1 EIS

- Establish Need and Purpose
- Corridor evaluation and recommendation
- Program for future implementation

Tier 2 Environmental Studies

- Advance Tier 1 Recommendations
- Project specific studies and alignments
- Preliminary engineering and specific mitigation

Scoping Process

Public information scoping meetings allowed stakeholders to provide comments on the project's need, opportunities, and potential route locations

- Agency Scoping Meeting June 7, 2017
- Public Scoping Meetings June 7, 2017 and June 8, 2017



Public Scoping

More than 90 comments and questions received on comment forms and emails, by telephone and online between May 2017 and July 2017



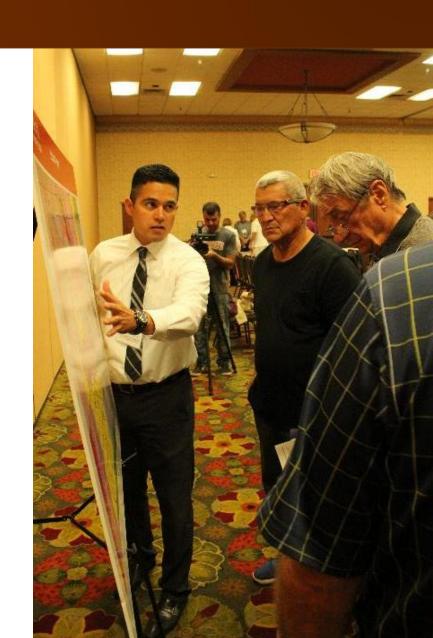


Public Scoping Comments

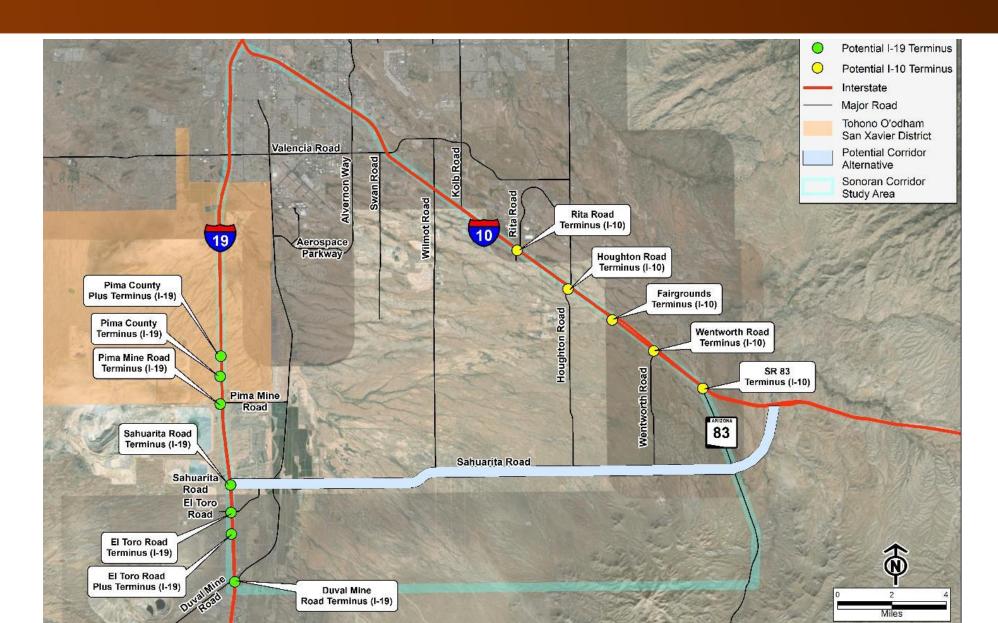
More than 90 public comments were received between May 12 and July 15, 2017

Key Points:

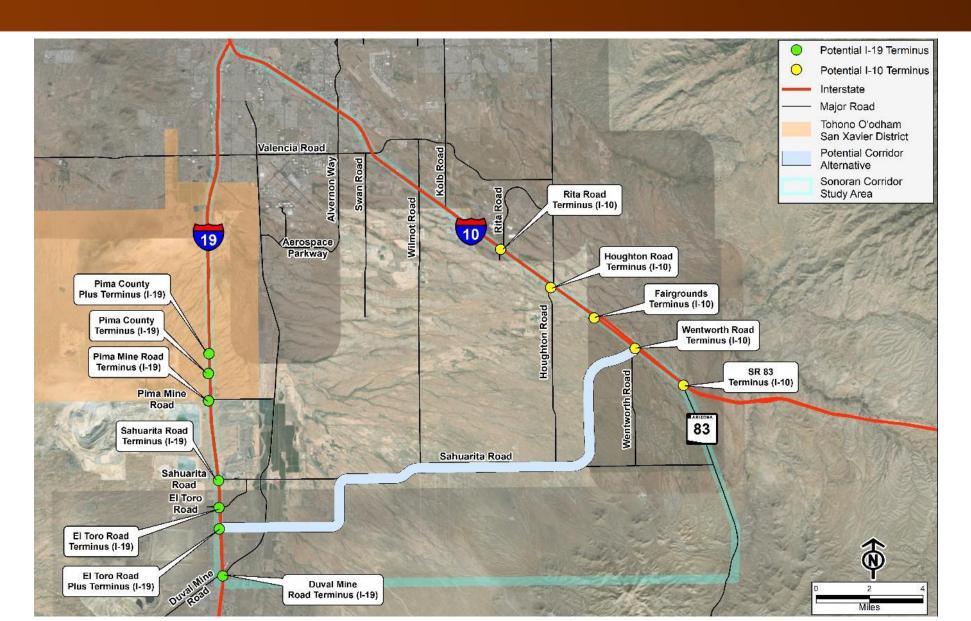
- Consider existing infrastructure
- Address traffic congestion and delays
- Concerns with increased commercial traffic vehicles
- Avoid negative effects on residential areas
- Concerns about noise and air pollution
- Concerns about the local environment/habitat



Corridor Identification - Public



Corridor Identification — Public (modified)



Agency Scoping

- Agency scoping meetings held May through July 2017
- Forty representatives of 12 agencies participated during scoping phase
- Agency input led to three corridors now being evaluated





Agency Scoping Comments

Key Points:

- Promote economic development opportunities
- Focus on movement of freight and commerce
- Reduce travel times for area commuters
- Consider a route that provides access to Tucson International Airport from the south
- Include multimodal and technology in selected corridor

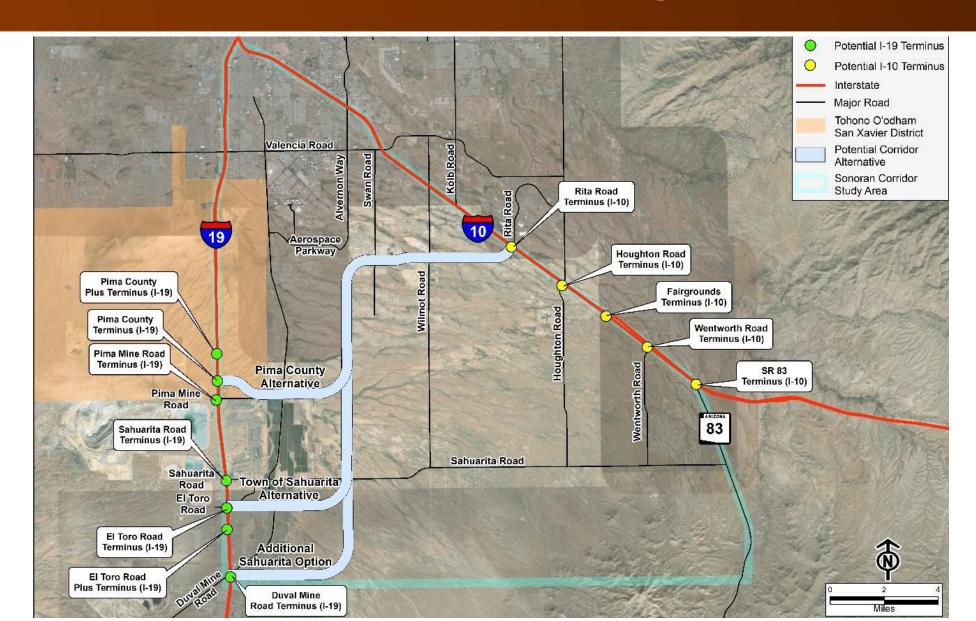


Tribal Outreach

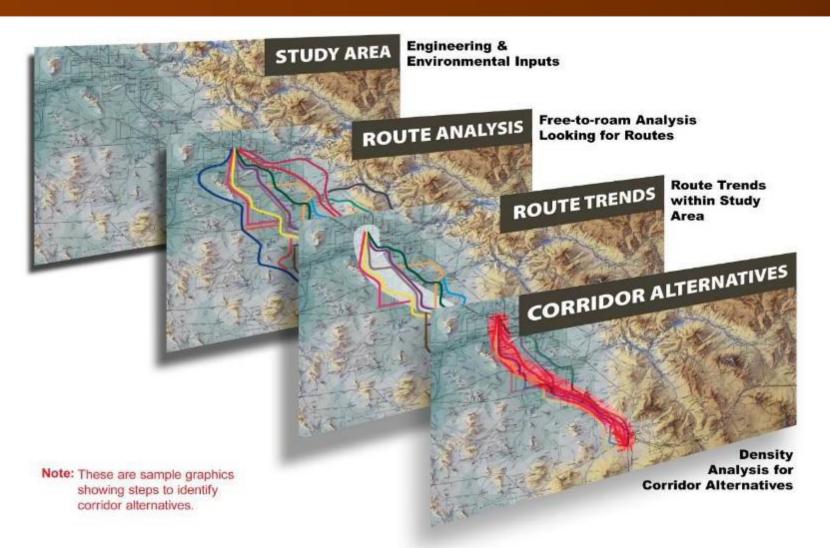
- Study area includes Tohono O'odham Nation (TON) San Xavier District (SXD)
- Coordination with TON-SXD throughout project via community meetings
- Collaboration on transportation corridor on TON-SXD lands
- Coordination with landowners to assess preferences regarding corridors



Corridor Identification - Agencies



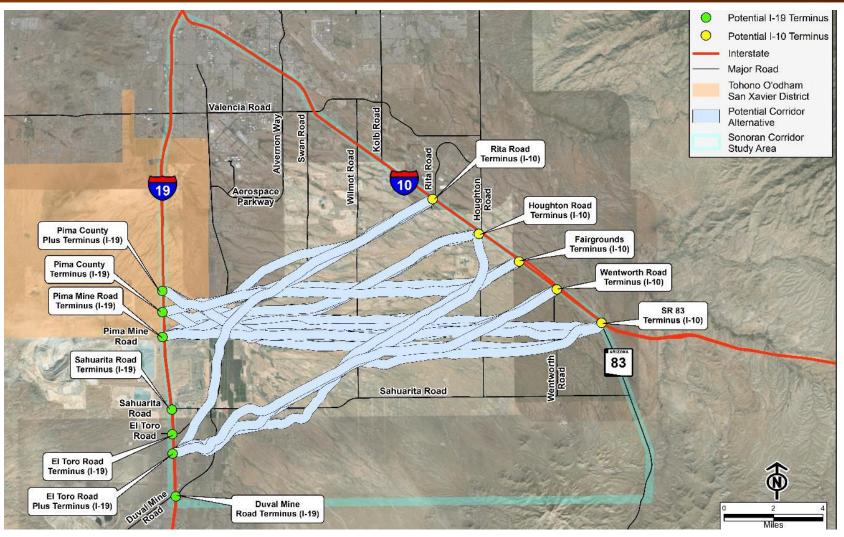
Development of Corridor Alternatives- Quantm



- Engineering and environmental inputs
- Systematic analysis for range of reasonable alternatives
- Route trends
- Density analysis for corridor alternatives

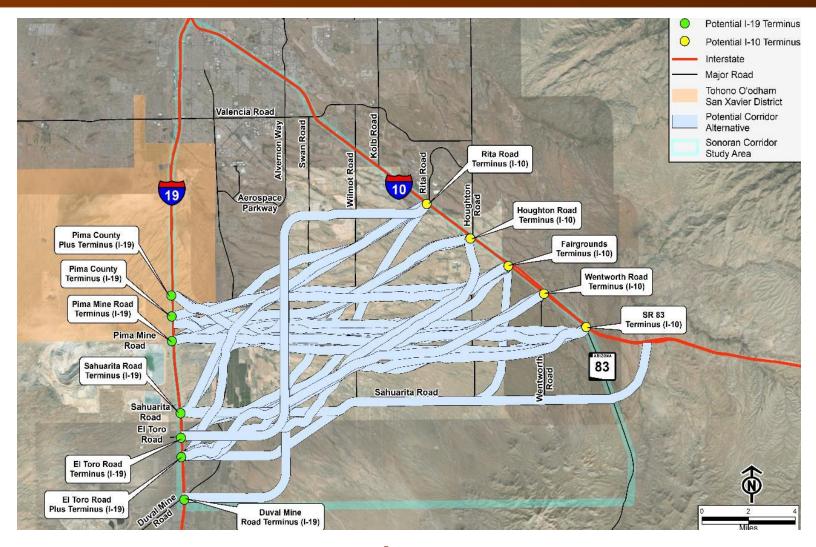


Corridor Identification - Quantm



28 Quantm Corridors

Comprehensive Set of Corridors



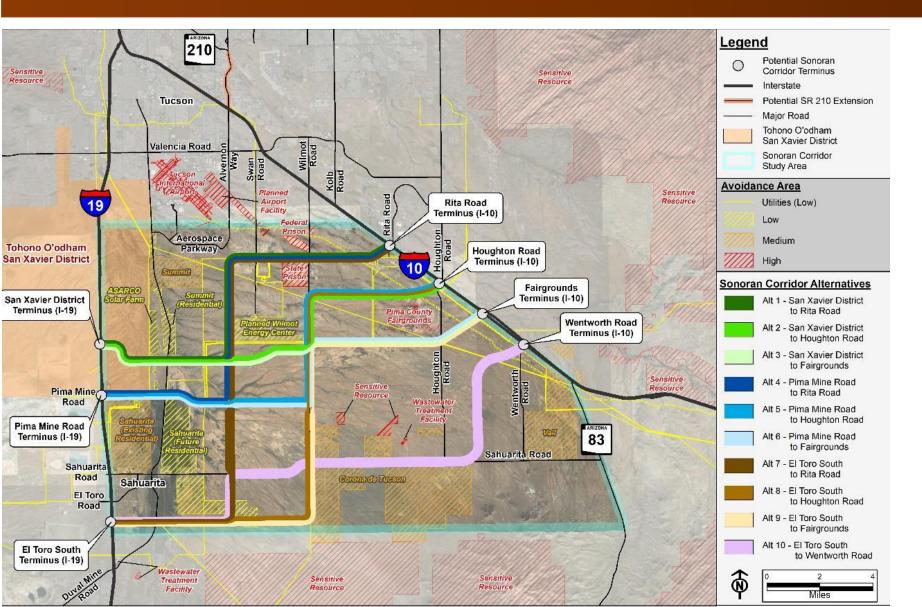
32 Total Routes

Engineering and Access Requirements

- Local mobility impacts
- Impact to local community institutions and features
- Roadway design guidelines for system interchanges
- Freeway-to-freeway interchange should be 2 miles from nearest local freeway interchange
- Access must be maintained at local interchanges if replaced by a freeway-to-freeway interchange

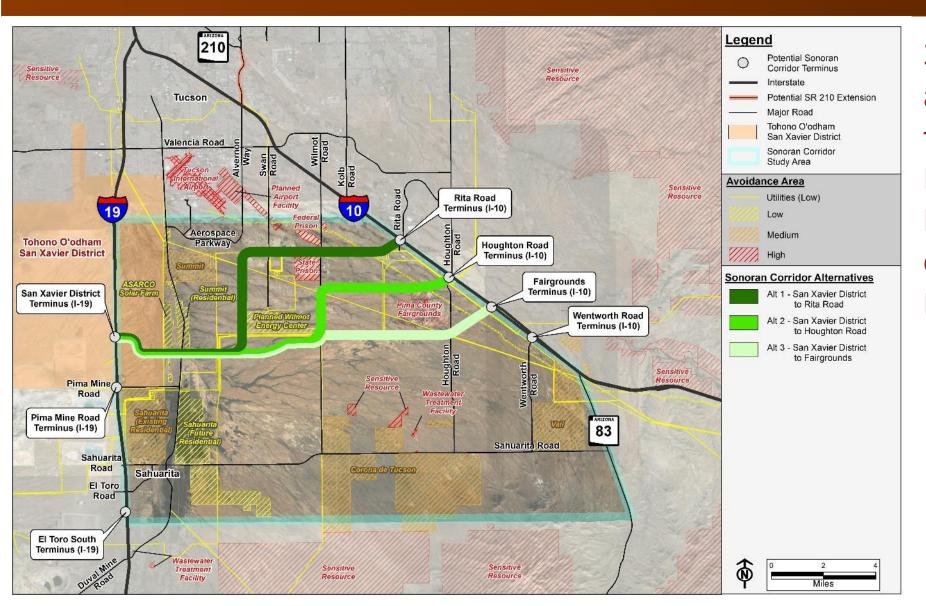


Optimized List of Alternatives



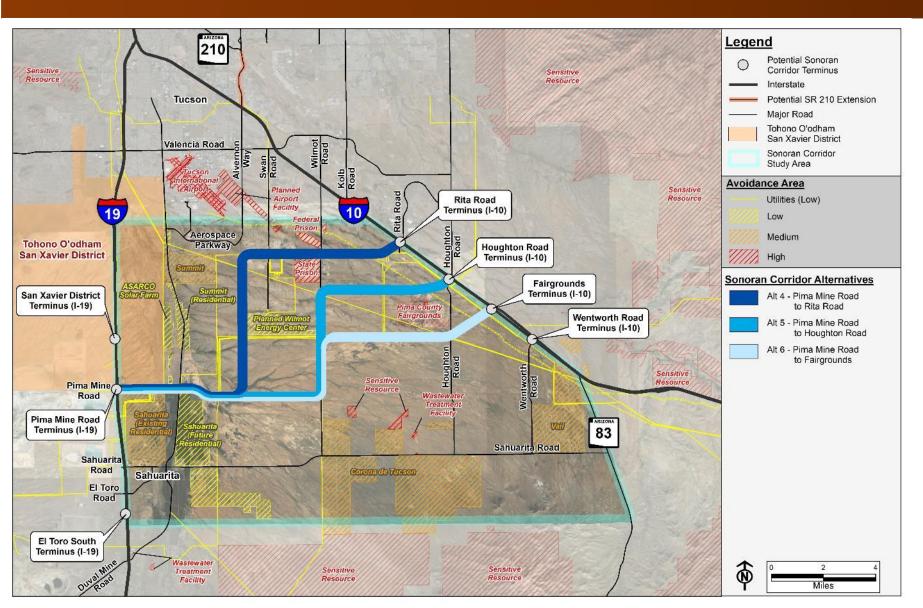
10 Corridors will be analyzed with the Evaluation Screening Criteria

Optimized Alternatives from San Xavier District



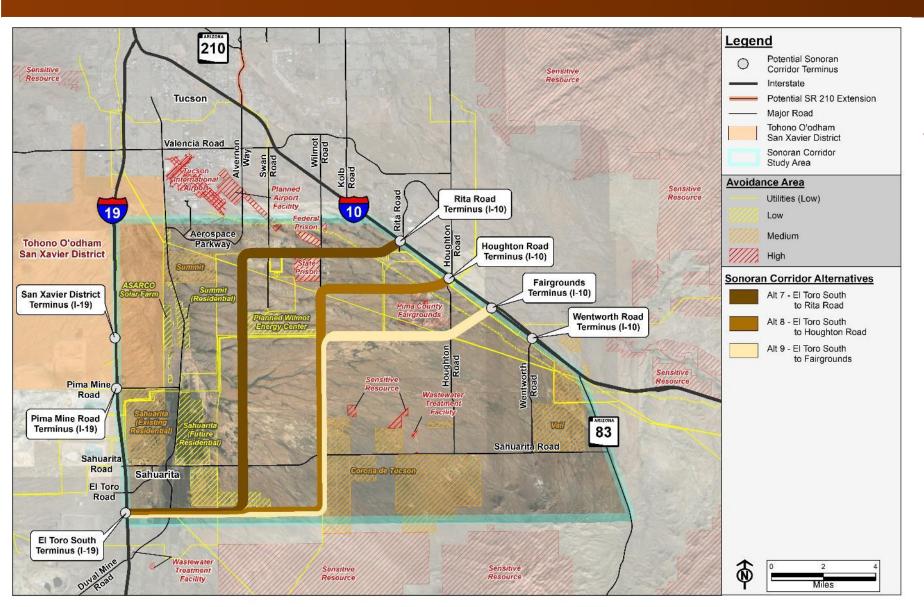
3 Corridors will be analyzed starting from the San Xavier District I-19 Interchange connecting to three I-10 Interchanges

Optimized Alternatives from Pima Mine Road



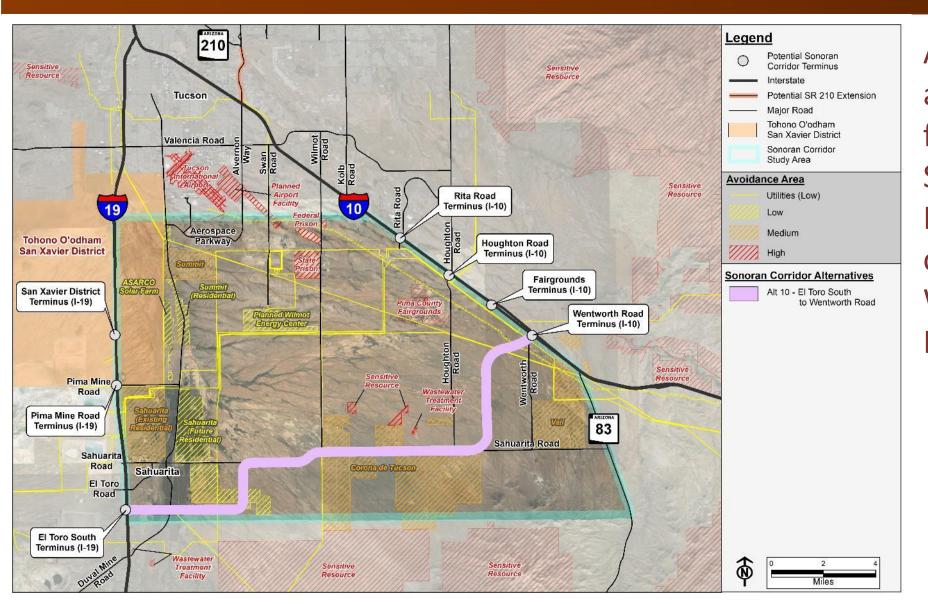
3 Corridors will be analyzed starting from the Pima Mine Road I-19 Interchange connecting to three I-10 Interchanges

Optimized Alternatives from El Toro South



3 Corridors will be analyzed starting from the El Toro South I-19 Interchange connecting to three I-10 Interchanges

Optimized Corridor Alternatives



Alternative will be analyzed starting from the El Toro South I-19 Interchange connecting to the Wentworth Road Interchange on I-10

How to Comment

Comment Form – available at this meeting

Telephone: 1.855.712.8530 (Toll Free)

Email: sonorancorridor@azdot.gov

Mail: Sonoran Corridor Tier 1 EIS Study Team;

c/o Joanna Bradley

1221 S. Second Ave., Mail Drop T100, Tucson, AZ 85713

Online: azdot.gov/sonorancorridor

Comments encouraged by October 26, 2018



Key Milestones Timeline

Need and Purpose – *Completed January 2018*

Evaluation Methodology – *Completed July 2018*

Comprehensive Set of Corridors – *Completed July 2018*

Refined List of Corridors – September 2018

Range of Reasonable Corridors – December 2018

Final Corridor Alternatives – January 2019

Corridor Selection Report – February 2019

Draft Tier 1 EIS – Summer 2019

Final Tier 1 EIS/ROD – Spring 2020



Next Steps

Final Refined List of Optimized Corridors

Screening Results – Reasonable Range of Alternatives – Late 2018

Public Meeting – January/February 2019

Corridor Selection Report – February 2019

Draft Tier EIS 2019 Public Hearings – Late 2019



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SONORAN