

PUBLIC REVIEW

The Draft Tier 1 EIS is available for public comment from September 6, 2019 through October 29, 2019. During the comment period, three public hearings and open houses will be held to provide information on the Draft Tier 1 EIS, the Preferred Corridor Alternative and to accept formal public comments. Printed copies of the Draft Tier 1 EIS are available to review at the locations listed below and the document is available for download from the study website at www.azdot.gov/NorthSouthStudy.

REPOSITORY LOCATIONS

Eloy Santa Cruz Library

1000 N. Main St., Eloy, AZ 85131 | 520.466.3814

Coolidge Public Library

160 W. Central Ave., Coolidge, AZ 85128 | 520.723.6030

Florence Community Library

778 N. Main St., Florence, AZ 85132 | 520.868.7500

Apache Junction Public Library

1177 N. Idaho Rd., Apache Junction, AZ 85119 | 480.474.8558

Queen Creek Library

21802 S. Ellsworth Rd., Queen Creek, AZ 85142 | 602.652.3000

After the comment period has concluded for the Draft Tier 1 EIS, the study team will review the comments received, conduct additional analyses as needed, and revise the Draft Tier 1 EIS to address the comments. A Final EIS will be prepared and issued in combination with a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will represent ADOT's final decision on the project. Transcripts of the public hearings and comments gathered on the Draft Tier 1 EIS will be included in the combined Final EIS/ROD, along with responses to the comments received.



PUBLIC HEARINGS/OPEN HOUSES

1 Tuesday, October 1, 2019 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Florence High School
1000 S. Main Street
Florence, AZ 85132



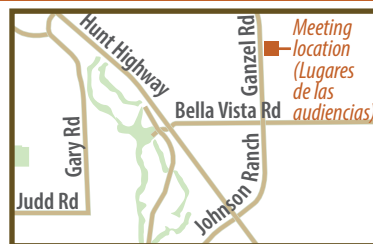
2 Thursday, October 10, 2019 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Eloy City Hall
595 North C Street,
Suite 104
Eloy, AZ 85131



3 Tuesday, October 15, 2019 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Poston Butte High School
32375 N. Gantzel Road
San Tan Valley, AZ 85143



FOR MORE INFORMATION



1.855.712.8530

northsouth@azdot.gov

www.azdot.gov/NorthSouthStudy

Questions and comments can be submitted throughout the comment period in any the following ways. All comment methods are considered equal.



Online: www.azdot.gov/NorthSouthStudy



Email: northsouth@azdot.gov



Phone: 855.712.8530



Mail: c/o ADOT Communications
1655 W. Jackson St., MD 126F
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Questions and comments can be submitted throughout the comment period, ending on October 29, 2019.

Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other nondiscrimination laws and authorities, ADOT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Persons that require a reasonable accommodation based on language or disability should contact Laura Douglas at 602.712.7683 or LDouglas@azdot.gov. Requests should be made as early as possible to ensure the State has an opportunity to address the accommodation.

De acuerdo con el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA por sus siglas en inglés) y otras normas y leyes antidiscriminatorias, el Departamento de Transporte de Arizona (ADOT) no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad o discapacidad. Las personas que requieran asistencia (dentro de lo razonable) ya sea por el idioma o discapacidad deben ponerse en contacto con la Laura Douglas a 602.712.7683 o LDouglas@azdot.gov. Las solicitudes deben hacerse lo más antes posible para asegurar que el Estado tenga la oportunidad de hacer los arreglos necesarios.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by ADOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated 04/16/2019, and executed by FHWA and ADOT.

Las consultas, la revisión ambiental y otras acciones requeridas según las leyes ambientales federales correspondientes para este proyecto se están llevando a cabo, o se han llevado a cabo, por ADOT de acuerdo con 23 U.S.C 327 y un Memorandum de Acuerdo con fecha del 16 de abril de 2019, y se han realizado por FHWA y ADOT.



Proyecto de ADOT N.º 999 PN 000 H7454 | Subvención federal N.º 999-A(365)X

NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR STUDY

Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

PUBLIC HEARINGS/OPEN HOUSES

On behalf of the Arizona Department of Transportation and the North-South Corridor Study team, thank you for taking time to attend this hearing.

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is conducting an environmental study in Pinal County, known as the North-South Corridor Study (NSCS), to identify a potential new transportation corridor. The project spans approximately 50 miles between U.S. 60 in Apache Junction and Interstate 10 (I-10) in Eloy, passing through the City of Coolidge, Town of Florence and portions of unincorporated Pinal County along the way.

The NSCS Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) evaluates the potential short-term and long-term impacts associated with a range of Corridor Alternatives, including the No-Build (do nothing) Alternative, and recommends a Preferred Corridor Alternative. These Corridor Alternatives were developed based on input from the public; coordination with local, regional, state, and federal agencies and tribes; and findings from previously completed studies (Draft EIS Section 1.3.3).

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to provide you with information about the study, present the Preferred Corridor Alternative and solicit comments on the Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). We are excited to reach this important milestone and present this Draft Tier 1 EIS for your input.

WELCOME TO THE PUBLIC HEARING

www.azdot.gov/NorthSouthStudy

GROUND RULES

Mutual respect, courtesy, and patience are the hearing's guiding principles. We ask that you follow the ground rules listed below so that everyone feels welcome, comfortable, and has the opportunity to speak.

Meeting Venue

Independently printed materials, signs, or banners are not allowed in the meeting venue.

Open House Area

Please refrain from interrupting conversations between study team members and meeting attendees.

Public Statement Area

Please remain quiet and silence cell phones while in the audience. Please do not interrupt a speaker. Please leave the area for side discussions. Keep comments within the allotted 3 minutes to provide equal opportunity and time for all to speak and be heard.

GUIDELINES FOR GIVING PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Register - All speakers are required to register at the Speaker Registration table.

Order of Speakers - Speakers will be called forward based on the order in which they sign up.

Time Limit for Verbal Comments - In order to allow as many to be heard as possible and provide equal opportunity, each speaker will be allotted a maximum of 3 minutes. Yielding time to another person will not be allowed.

Submit Written Comments - An individual or group representative who speaks may also submit more detailed written comments for the hearing record. All comments—regardless of how submitted—will have equal weight.

Hearing Schedule - All speakers registered by the scheduled close of this hearing will have the opportunity to speak. Registration will not be allowed past the closing time of this hearing.

Demonstrations are not allowed in the public hearing.

DRAFT TIER 1 EIS

The Corridor study area is bounded on the north by U.S. Route 60 (US 60) and extends south for approximately 50 miles to Interstate 10 (I-10). An extension of State Route (SR) 24 from its currently designed terminus at Ironwood Drive to the Corridor is part of this study. The Corridor's northern terminus is near Apache Junction on US 60, and the southern terminus is at I-10 between Eloy and Marana. Coolidge and Florence are in the central part of the study area.

Significant population and employment growth is projected in the study area. To address the transportation needs in the area, a continuous, access-controlled north-to-south transportation corridor that would:

- enhance the transportation network to accommodate existing and future populations
- improve access to future activity centers
- improve regional mobility
- provide an alternative to avoid congestion on I-10
- improve north-to-south connectivity
- integrate the region's transportation network

Other desired outcomes in addition to the transportation benefits include:

- protecting and enhancing the natural environment along the corridor
- supporting local and regional land use plans and preservation goals
- supporting equitable economic opportunities
- complementing other planned transportation improvements along new and established corridors in the study area

The Tier 1 EIS environmental review process considers a range of Corridor Alternatives, including the No-Build (do nothing) Alternative.

The Corridor Alternatives studied consist of an Eastern Alternative with options, a Western Alternative with options, and a combination of both to avoid, mitigate, and minimize environmental impacts. While other alternatives were evaluated in the earlier stages of this project, they were eliminated from further study.

The No-Build Alternative would not construct a north-to-south freeway (no new freeway would be proposed). It is important to note that the No-Build Alternative would also produce environmental impacts, resulting from doing nothing to address the study's purpose and need for building a major new transportation corridor in the study area.

Alternative 7, with the E1b and E3b Options (please see the map to the right), has been identified as the Preferred Corridor Alternative. The identification of the Preferred Corridor Alternative was based on how well it met the purpose and need while reducing the potential for adverse impacts.



NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR STUDY AREA