



# Loop 101 and Interstate 10 System Traffic Interchange Improvements

Oct. 26, 2022  
Public Meeting Summary Report

ADOT Project No. F047501L | Federal Aid No. 101(218)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.0</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>PUBLIC MEETING</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1	Public Meeting Notification	3
2.1.1	Project Website	3
2.1.2	GovDelivery Emails	3
2.1.3	News Release	3
2.1.4	Social Media	3
2.1.5	Stakeholder Outreach	4
2.1.6	Direct Mail	4
2.1.7	Earned Media	5
2.2	Public Meeting Materials	5
2.2.1	Presentation	5
<b>3.0</b>	<b>PUBLIC COMMENTS</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Summary of Comments	6
<b>4.0</b>	<b>TITLE VI REPORTING</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1	Self ID Surveys	7
4.2	Civil Rights Meeting Summary	7
<b>APPENDICES</b>		
A	Public Meeting Materials Posted to Project Website	
B	Email Notifications and News Release	
C	Social Media	
D	Earned Media	
E	Public Comments	

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is conducting a study to evaluate improvements to the Loop 101 (Agua Fria Freeway) and Interstate 10 system interchange in the West Valley. The purpose of this study is to evaluate alternatives to the interchange that will enhance regional travel by improving safety, reducing congestion and improving connectivity.

Maricopa County is one of the largest and fastest-growing regions in the United States, and the county's population is expected to increase by nearly 30 percent between 2020 and 2040. Traffic volume projections indicate congestion will worsen in the future due to growth in the region.

Figure 1: Project Area Map



## 2.0 PUBLIC MEETING

ADOT held a virtual public meeting on Oct. 26, 2022, from 6-7:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information on the project purpose and need and alternatives being

considered for improvements. The meeting also provided opportunities for the public to ask questions and make comments.

The public meeting was hosted online through the Zoom meeting platform with simultaneous interpretation in Spanish. English and Spanish participants could also call into the meeting if they did not have the ability to participate online. The meeting featured a presentation by the project team, followed by a question-and-answer period. Participants were provided information on how to ask questions and provide comments online or by phone. Online attendees could submit written questions online through Zoom's Q&A feature. English call-in participants could also ask questions by phone by pressing \*9 to raise their hand. Spanish call-in participants were unmuted to allow them to ask questions.

Project team members from ADOT, partner organizations and Jacobs Engineering, the project design consultant, served as panelists at the meeting. Panelists included:

- Kim Larson, ADOT
- Randy Everett, ADOT
- Rashidul Haque, ADOT
- Jennifer Acuna, Federal Highway Administration
- Quinn Castro, Maricopa Association of Governments
- Myesha Harris, City of Phoenix
- Rajanikanth Thoutam, City of Avondale
- Chris Hamilton, City of Tolleson
- Troy Sieglitz, Jacobs

Additional Community Relations and project team staff as well as a Spanish speaking interpreter were present to assist in facilitating the online meeting and Q&A session. Participants were notified that comments and questions about the project could also be submitted during the public comment period through email, telephone, USPS mail or online. Participants were notified that all project related materials, including the presentation, were available online.

The presentation and script were translated into Spanish and posted to the project website.

Fifty-nine people attended the virtual public meeting. Of the 13 people that completed the online comment form, three indicated that they heard about the meeting by direct mail, three by email, three by the webpage, three by social media, and one by "other."

## 2.1 Public Meeting Notification

### 2.1.1 Project Website

ADOT hosted a project website ([www.azdot.gov/I10\\_Loop101\\_TI](http://www.azdot.gov/I10_Loop101_TI)), which was launched on Aug. 2, 2022. The project website provides a project overview, including the project elements, timeline, and project fact sheets in English and Spanish. All information and materials related to the public meeting were posted to the project website, including:

- Meeting postcard

- Public meeting information, including how to access the meeting online or by phone in English and Spanish
- Public meeting presentation slides (in English and Spanish)
- Public meeting recordings
- Public meeting script (in English and Spanish)

Copies of the public meeting materials posted to the website are included in Appendix A.

#### 2.12 GovDelivery Emails

Information on how to participate in the virtual public meeting and reminder notices were distributed by ADOT on Oct. 17 and 20 via GovDelivery to approximately 18,000 subscribers of ADOT's I-10 Papago Freeway (SR 85 to I-17) and Loop 101 Agua Fria Freeway email topic lists. Meeting information was also sent by email from the Community Relations Project Manager to the community stakeholders on the project contact list, which includes businesses, schools, HOAs and other key contacts in the project area to share with their constituents. Following the public meeting, on Oct. 31 ADOT sent a GovDelivery email to advise that the meeting recording was posted online for those unable to attend. Copies of the GovDelivery notices can be found in Appendix B.

#### 2.13 News Release

ADOT Public Information staff distributed a news release to media outlets on Oct. 21. The news release can be found in Appendix B.

#### 2.14 Social Media

ADOT staff posted to ADOT's Facebook and Twitter accounts on Oct. 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, and 31, and on Next Door Oct. 25, and Nov. 1 to provide information about the public meeting and commenting opportunities. Additionally, the city of Surprise shared ADOT's post on Oct. 25. Images of the social media posts can be found in Appendix C.

#### 2.15 Stakeholder Outreach

The Study Team held meetings with project stakeholders, including the city of Avondale (Aug. 24), the city of Phoenix (Aug. 24), and the city of Tolleson (Aug. 25), as well as the Tolleson Elementary School District on Oct. 3. The team also met on Oct. 3 with a group of city of Tolleson business owners including Cox Automotive, JBS Foods and Pepsi Co.

In addition, the ADOT Community Relations team created a contact list that included stakeholders in the project area, such as businesses, HOAs, schools and churches. The team communicated with this 200+ list via email to provide information about the project and the public meeting. Information about the public meeting was emailed to these stakeholders on Oct. 19 and 25. A copy of the emails can be found in Appendix C.

The team also reached out to the city of Tolleson Developmental Services office to ask that the meeting information be shared with key businesses just outside of the study area that may be impacted by the project. The information was shared on Oct. 20.

#### 2.16 Direct Mail

Postcards in English and Spanish were sent via First Class bulk mail to all residential and business properties (13,250 total) within 1-mile of the project. The 9" x 6" postcard included information about the project, how to participate in the virtual public meeting, how to provide comments, the comment deadline, how to get more information on the project via the website and project contact information. The postcards were sent on Oct. 13. Due to an error on the postcard related to the English call-in information, the postcards were revised and resent on Oct. 21 at the consultant's expense. Copies of the postcards are included in Appendix A.

#### 2.17 Earned Media

A news article about the public meeting was posted online by *The Daily Independent* on Oct. 23. A copy can be found in Appendix D.

## 2.2 Public Meeting Materials

A variety of public meeting materials were made available to the public in both English and Spanish online via the project website, and are included in Appendix A. These public meeting materials included:

- Presentation and script
- Fact sheet
- Online comment form
- Self-Identification survey

After the meeting, a recording of the presentation (English and Spanish) was posted on the project website.

#### 2.2.1 Presentation

The presentation can be found in Appendix A and covered the following topics:

- ADOT Nondiscrimination Notice and ADA Auxiliary Aids and Services notice
- Project purpose and need
- Timing of near-term and long-term improvements
- Project funding
- Feedback from the public on area needs and issues
- Direct High Occupancy Vehicle (DHOV) improvement options being considered
- Potential southbound Loop 101 to 9th Avenue Ramp, and other possible improvements within the project area
- How to provide questions and comments at the meeting and following the meeting

## 3.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

This section summarizes the comments received during the public-comment period from Oct. 26 through Nov. 9. Comments could be submitted through the following methods: mail, telephone, email and online. A total of 54 comments were received through the following methods:

- Online comments: 25
- Project information telephone line comments: 2

- Email comments: 1
- Virtual public meeting comments: 2
- Virtual public meeting questions: 24
- Mail: 0

The public comments and questions are included in Appendix E.

### 3.1 Summary of Comments

Comments and questions received during the public comment period and at the virtual public meeting addressed the following topics:

#### Relieving congestion

- Support for DHOV
- Congestion problems experienced by drivers (particularly merging/weaving movements) and suggestions for solutions
- Questions about intersection types being considered (DDI, etc.)
- 91st and 99th avenues receive the southbound traffic that exits near the system interchange

#### Construction impacts

- There are major events/venues and traffic generating activity centers in the project area that should be considered and impacts minimized
- Other projects and constant construction in the area cause regular delays for the region
- Questions about when construction will take place

#### Impacts on the natural and social environment

- Question regarding whether there would be right-of-way concerns for local impacted businesses
- Question about whether ADOT considered impacts on migratory birds

#### Funding

- Questions about funding sources and timing

#### Communication/Outreach

- Project team contact information
- Question about how ADOT is considering the needs of LGBTQIAA+ minority and other disadvantaged community members in the project

## 4.0 TITLE VI REPORTING

### 4.1 Self ID Surveys

Meeting participants were asked to complete ADOT's self-identification survey for Title VI reporting purposes. Links to the survey were provided in English and Spanish in the presentation and meeting chat, as well as verbally to those on the phone. A total of 13 people completed the self-ID survey out of 59 attendees, which was a 22% response rate.

Of the 13 self-identification survey responses, 1 participant identified as American Indian/ Alaskan Native, 3 (23%) identified as Hispanic/ Latino, and 10 (76%) identified as White.

## **4.2 Civil Rights Meeting Summary**

A Civil Rights public meeting summary documenting ADOT's compliance with Title VI and Title II nondiscrimination and accommodations was submitted to the Civil Rights Office on Nov. 9.