

ADOT



**STATE ROUTE 260
LION SPRINGS IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT
FINAL DESIGN**

**SR 260 Lion Springs Improvement Project
Public Meeting June 6, 2024
Eastern Arizona College - Payson Campus**

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ADOT

Tonight's Presenter

Jerry McCoy

ADOT Community Relations Supervisor

Northern Arizona Region

Welcome

Meeting format

- Presentation
- After presentation:
Review materials, ask questions & provide comments

Housekeeping

- Please mute cell phones during presentation
- Restroom locations
- Emergency instructions/exit locations

Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Overview of the project and design plans.
- Opportunity to view project plans and speak with the project team.
- Ask questions to project team & provide comments.



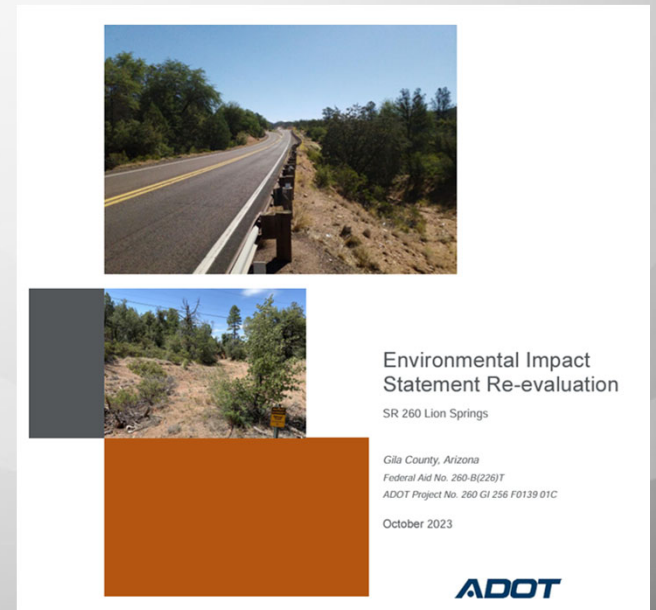


Project Background

- SR 260 Lion Springs segment was part of an ADOT study initiated in the early 1990s to evaluate highway improvements between Payson and Heber.
- The final recommendations for the SR 260 Lion Springs Improvement project were documented in the 2000 Design Concept Report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- Due to the passage of time, ADOT initiated an environmental re-evaluation in 2020 to account for changes that have occurred in the area over the past 20 years and to ensure the design plan conforms to current federal regulations.

Project Background & Need

- Lion Springs only remaining 2-lane segment of SR 260 between Payson and the Mogollon Rim.
- Improve capacity and traffic flow.
- Recently updated the Environmental Impact Statement and engineering study from the 1990s.
- Project is in final design.



Planned Improvements

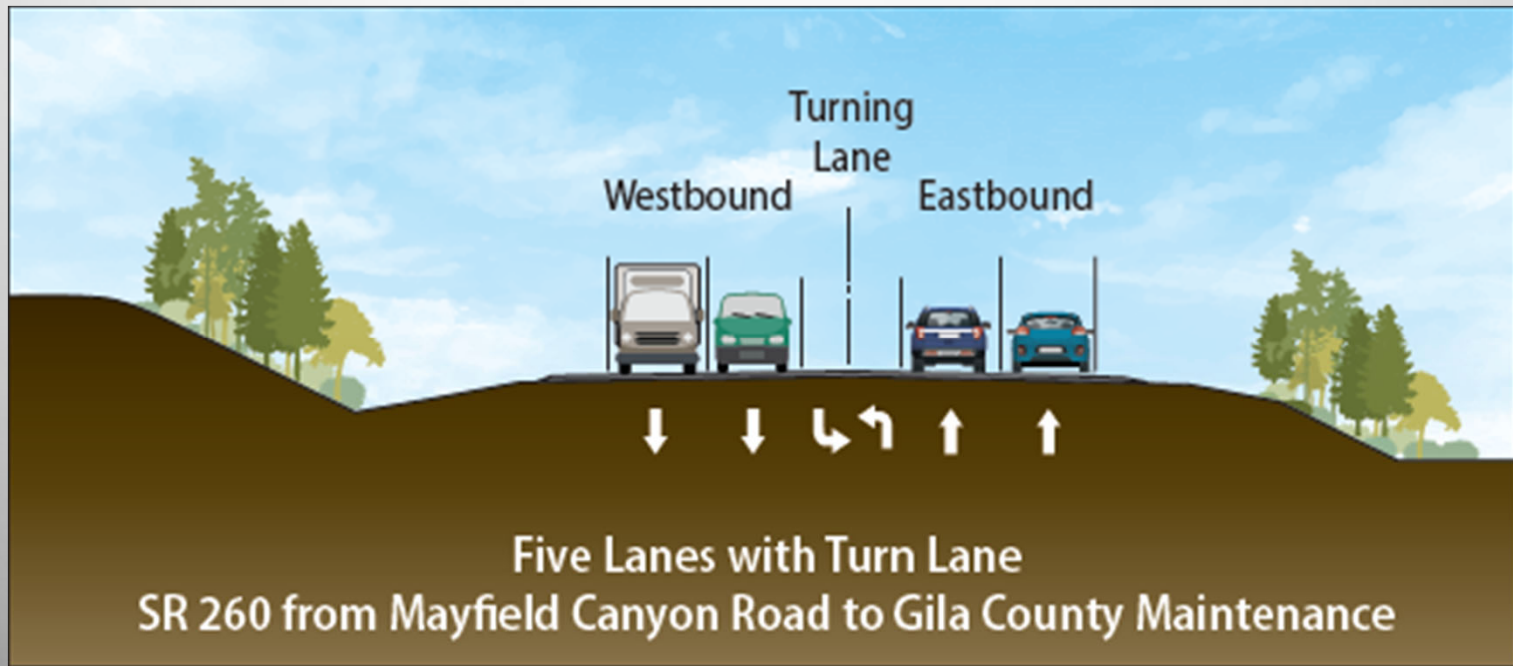
- Add one lane in each direction between MP 256-260.
 - Center left-turn lane between MP 256-257.
 - Four-lane divided highway between MP 257-260.
- Construct new frontage road for the Diamond Point Shadows subdivision.
- Install three wildlife crossings (over or under SR 260).



Planned Improvements - Continued

- Improve and/or install drainage facilities, including culverts, pipes and ditches.
- Enhance erosion control measures.
- Remove and replace pavement, where needed.
- Remove, replace and extend guardrail, where needed.
- Salvage tree species and revegetate constructed slopes

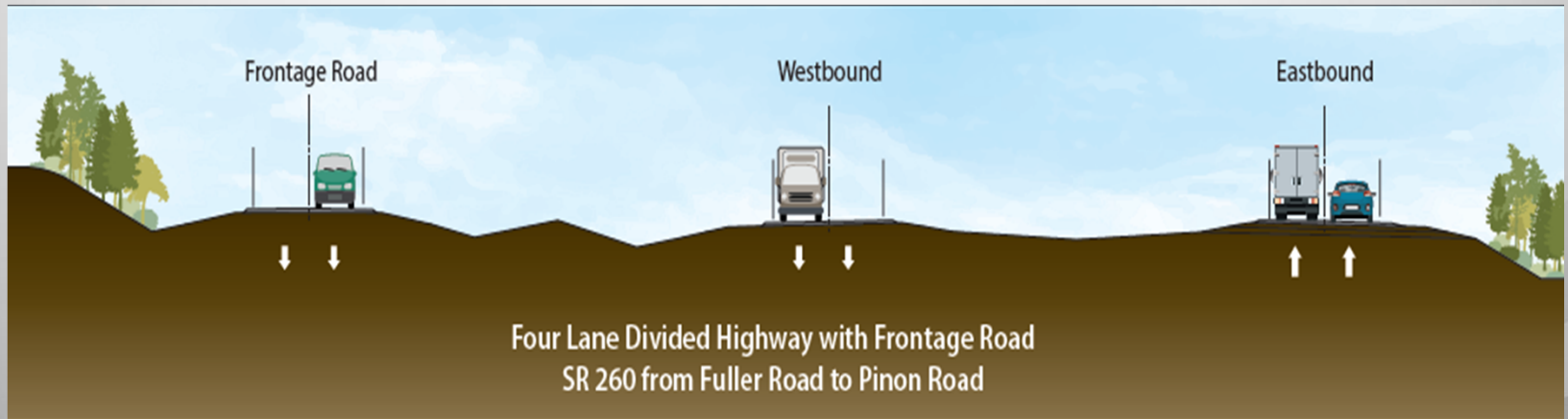
Five-lane Highway with Center Turn Lane (MP 256-257)



Four-lane Divided Highway (MP 257-260)



Four-lane Divided Highway with Frontage Road: Fuller to Pinon Roads



Wildlife crossings

- Maintain/restore key ecological connections.
- Lower risk of road accidents.
- Collaboration with U.S. Forest Service and Arizona Game & Fish Department.
- Proposing three total crossings.



Wildlife Escape Ramps/Jump-outs



Segment 1: Five Lane Flush Median (Shifted North)

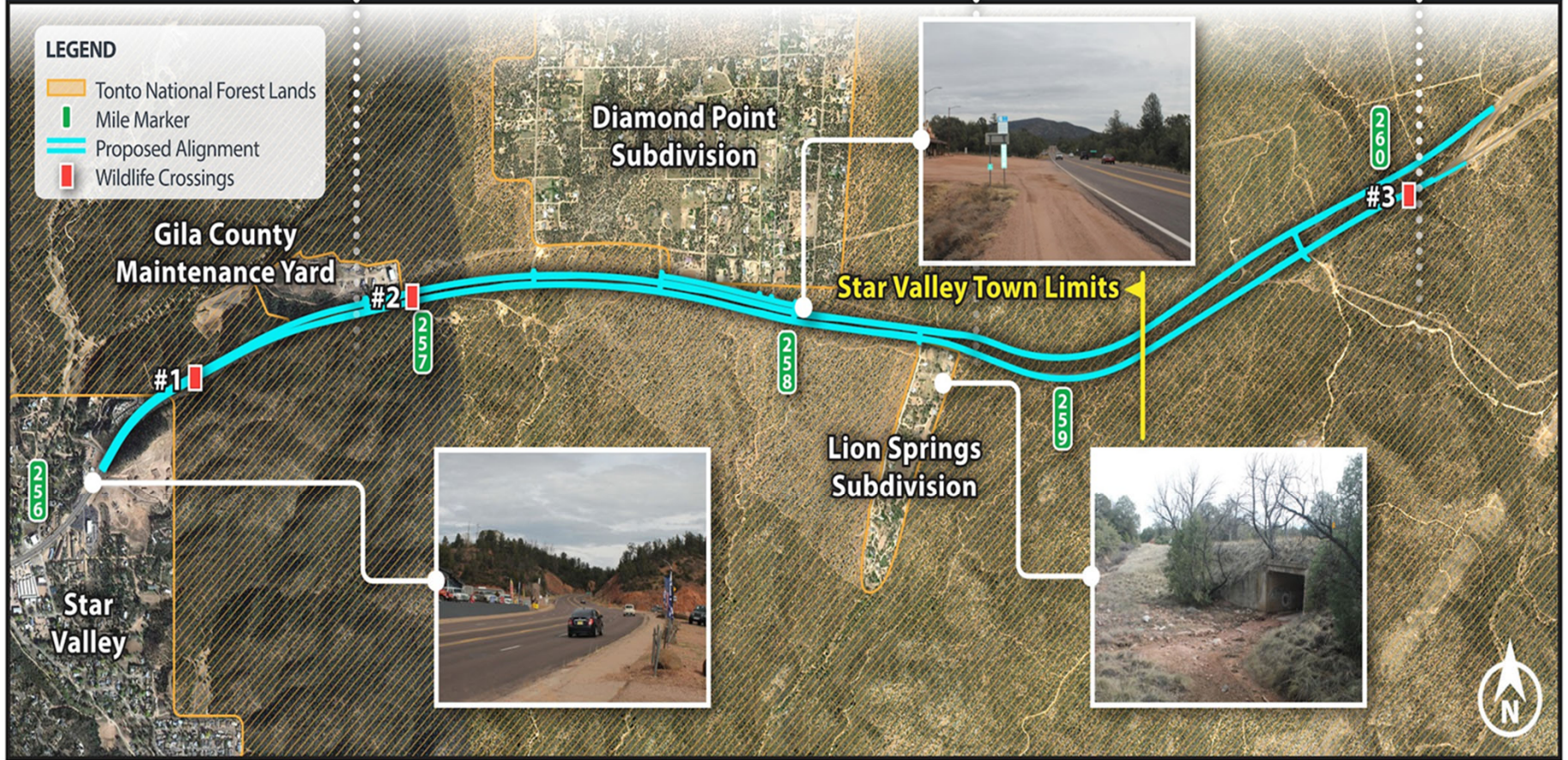
Segment 2: Four Lane Open 84' wide Median (Shifted South)

Segment 3: Four Lane Open 100-300' wide Median (Shifted North)

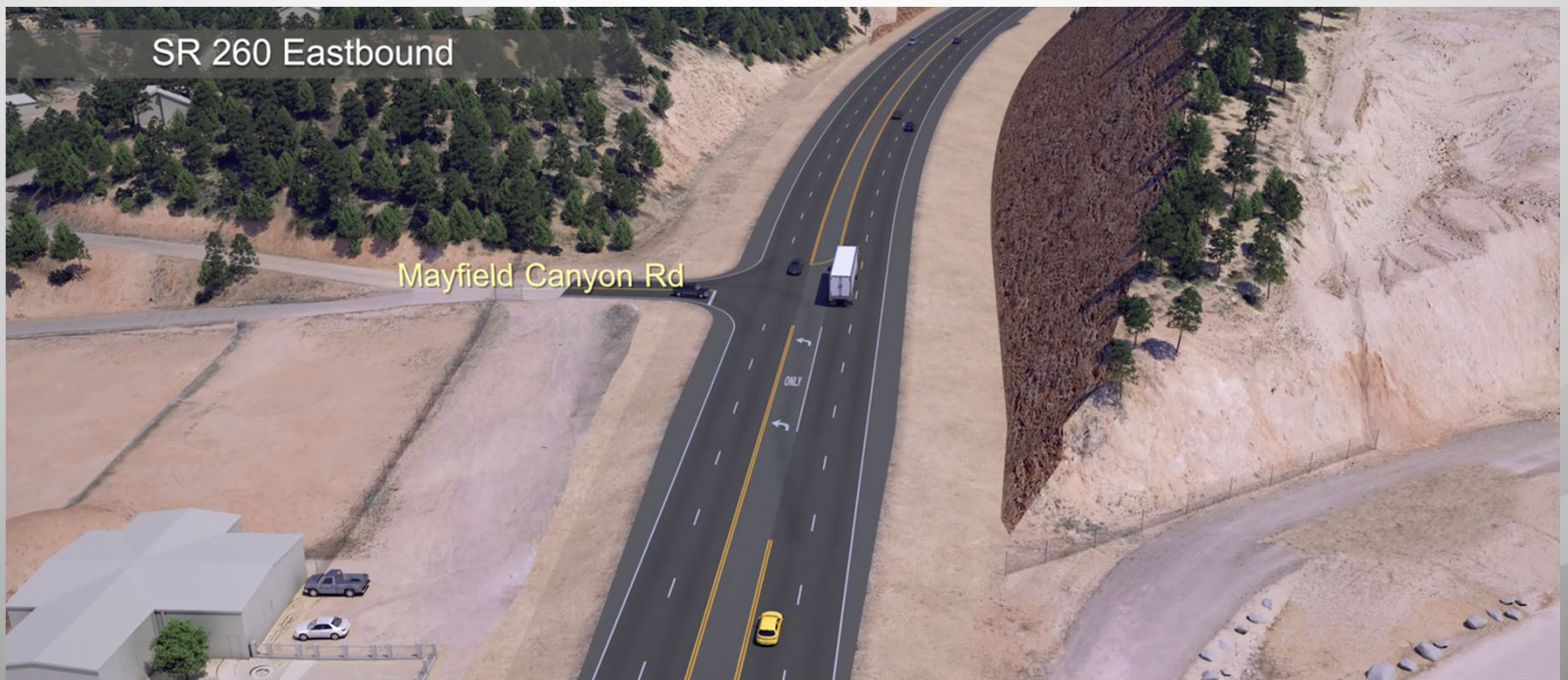
SR 260 Preacher Canyon (WSP)

LEGEND

- Tonto National Forest Lands
- Mile Marker
- Proposed Alignment
- Wildlife Crossings



“Flyover” Video Simulation



Noise Analysis

- Noise analysis was conducted within project limits based on ADOT Noise Abatement Requirements and federal (FHWA) regulations.
 - Existing noise measurements were taken.
 - Future noise levels were modeled for nearby homes and other noise-sensitive property types (churches, schools, parks) based on projected traffic volumes in 2040.
- As a result of noise measurements and analysis, no new noise mitigation is warranted for project.

Project Right-of-Way Acquisitions

- Acquisition of right-of-way (ROW) is needed to:
 - Widen SR 260 to the outside of the existing road.
 - Improve/install drainage and erosion-control.
 - Construct frontage road to the Diamond Point Shadows subdivision.
- Affected property owners have already been contacted by ADOT ROW staff.
- New ROW identified on project design plans and map.

Project Timeline

We Are
Here
June 2024



Design

March 2020 to May 2025

Construction

Spring 2026 to Fall 2029

* Timeline/schedule subject to change

What to Expect During Construction

- Traffic restrictions/short-term closures. One lane will remain open in both directions, excluding closures.
- Temporary roadway crossovers at three locations.
- Rock blasting operations.
- Construction-related traffic delays and noise.
- Advance notice of construction restrictions sent to SR 260 Lion Springs Improvement project email list.

How to Comment Through June 21

- Tonight: Complete and submit a comment card.
- Online: Comment form on website azdot.gov/Lion-Springs.
- Email/Phone: Ryan Harding, ADOT Community Relations.
 - rharding@azdot.gov or 602.550.8397
- Mail: Ryan Harding, ADOT Community Relations, 1655 W Jackson, MD 126F, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

How to Stay Informed

- Visit project website: azdot.gov/Lion-Springs
- Sign up to receive project updates and traffic alerts by email.

A white rectangular button with a red arrow icon pointing right and the text "Subscribe for updates" in red.

- Tonight's presentation and video simulation will be posted to the project website.

After Tonight's Presentation

- View the display boards at the 3 stations staffed by members of the project team.
- View the oversized map that includes the major project elements and new ADOT right-of-way lines.
- Opportunity to ask questions and provide comments to members of the project team.
- Comment cards at each station to complete and submit.

Thank You for Attending!

- Please complete a one-question anonymous Self-ID Survey at the welcome/sign-in table before leaving tonight's meeting.
- Visit the project web page at azdot.gov/Lion-Springs.