

ADOT CONNECTION



The COVID-19 pandemic is changing how ADOT provides a safe and reliable transportation system. The monthly Inside Lane is on hiatus. But our new weekly ADOT Connection news bulletin will help you stay connected, informed and healthy whether you're working from home, in the field or in the office.

Leadership Matters

We are One ADOT

ADOT Director **John Halikowski** speaks directly to agency employees in a new video.

Besides providing an update on the latest actions in response to COVID-19, the director also expresses his appreciation for ADOT team members and shares a new way for employees to contact the ADOT leadership team directly with questions and suggestions.

“Across this agency, I see employees who are continuing to step up and serve our state even when faced with challenges that are truly unprecedented,” Halikowski said.

Employees can [watch the video online](#) by visiting ADOT’s Vimeo channel.



In the Work Zone

ITG meets growing demand for telecommuters



Senior Bridge Design Engineer **Sal Salahuddin** started telecommuting from his home on March 31.

Allowing more ADOT staff to work remotely, the agency’s Information Technology Group added 400 virtual servers and 250 remote desktops, supporting more telework opportunities while ensuring access to required programs, documents and tools. In just two weeks, ADOT has doubled the number of employees teleworking in multiple departments around the state.



COVID-19 Resource Center

Up-to-date COVID-19 information from ADOT, Arizona Governor's Office, the Arizona Department of Health Services and more is available on the [COVID-19 Resource Center website](#).

Teleworking tips

In recent weeks, many ADOT employees have begun working from home due to COVID-19.

Teleworking allows us to provide essential services to our internal customers and to the public, but it does require some adjustment.

So how do you remain productive, meet the needs of your customers and balance the safety and wellbeing of your family while working from home?

ADOT's Employee and Business Development Office offers these tips for structuring your day, while teleworking:

- Divide your time into segments of activities. Break up your day with video calls, live chats and other human interactions.
- Select four things to accomplish during the day and fit other tasks like email around them.
- Get up and move around often.
- Build relationships and stay connected with colleagues and customers virtually.
- Stay focused and avoid distractions as much as possible.
- Do your most challenging work during your optimal natural energy cycle.
- Schedule weekly standing meeting times and daily chats with your manager and team.

How EAP can help you

As COVID-19 news spreads, it can create additional stress for many of us. For others, it may add to existing anxieties. If you need support, remember that ADOT offers the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

ComPsych EAP providers offer free, confidential telephonic counseling services for you and your family that can help you handle concerns constructively, before they become a major problem.

For more information or questions about ComPsych EAP, please visit their website, guidanceresources.com (register using company code HN8876C).

Kudos

Northeast District crews keep their hands clean in the field with hand-washing stations

Washing your hands often is among the best ways to help stop the coronavirus spread.

But for ADOT employees doing maintenance work on highways, access to water and soap can be challenging. That's why the Northeast District team came up with the idea to use old water coolers for hand-washing stations in the field. The district has labeled the coolers "hand wash only" and attached a bottle of hand soap on the side of each one.

The Northeast District team also has been sharing extra supplies throughout the district, including wipes, hand sanitizer and floor cleaner so that cleaning could be done to protect crews.



Highway Operations Tech **Rodney Montano** of Show Low Maintenance washes his hands at a job site.

What's Up @ ADOT

Remote classes continue

Technical Learning and Development instructor-led classes have been canceled through April 17, 2020, due to the continued spread of the novel coronavirus, in an effort to keep the health and safety of all we come in contact with as our top priority. Remote classes will continue as scheduled.

News Releases



ADOT has temporarily [reopened two long-shuttered northern Arizona rest areas to support truckers](#) hauling essentials during the current public health situation. Why is it important for you to get around to responding to the [2020 Census](#)? ADOT and the Arizona Department of Public Safety coordinate to inform motorists, get help to crash scenes and [get Arizonans safely home](#). The April edition of Arizona Highways magazine looks back at [95 years of evolution of landscape photography](#).

ADOT Blog

We recently set to work [demolishing the old I-10 bridge over Ruthrauff Road](#) in Tucson to build a better interchange. The first [ADOT Construction Academy exclusively for women](#) bucked trends and stereotypes. For businesses along its route, the [South Mountain Freeway is proving to be a time saver](#). There's a lot going on in the world, and [AZ MVD Now makes a trip to the MVD one less thing to worry about](#).

ADOT Albums

A major road in Tucson, [Ruthrauff Road, is getting some much needed renovations](#).

ADOT Videos

The world is online — [and now ADOT is too!](#)

ADOT in the News

The [original deadline to obtain a Real ID for travel has been moved](#) from Oct. 1, 2020, to a full year later, Oct. 1, 2021, because of the COVID-19 pandemic. People driving across Arizona highways are seeing [messages on overhead signs encouraging them to help stop the spread of COVID-19](#). In an effort to protect its seniors from the new coronavirus, Arizona is [waiving emissions testing for up to one year for people 65 and older](#) to allow them renew their car registration online.

On a Lighter Note

Telecommuting with furry colleagues

Amid the COVID-19 crisis, many ADOT employees working from home discover they still have coworkers — their pets!

Assistant Communications Director for Creative Services **Audrey St. Clair** says her dogs, Penny (pictured) and Bentley, and her cats, Charlie and Pepper, are pretty psyched to share her work space.

Share your photos

ADOT Connection invites you to share photos at work — whether you're telecommuting, in the field or in the office. Please take a selfie and send it to InsideLane@azdot.gov. Check out more ADOT employee photos at [flickr.com/photos/arizonadot](https://www.flickr.com/photos/arizonadot).



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