

DBE News & Events

April 30, 2020

ADOT Seeks \$35.7 Million in Emergency Federal Funds for Rural Transit

PHOENIX – To help rural transit providers that have seen drops in ridership and revenues due to the current public health situation, the Arizona Department of Transportation has submitted a grant application to make \$35.7 million in emergency federal funding available for operating expenses and other pressing needs.

The federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act includes \$25 billion for public transportation through the Federal Transit Administration, including \$2.2 billion for programs serving rural areas. This funding will support operating and capital expenses, planning and expenses related to preparing for, preventing and responding to COVID-19.

ADOT Transit, part of the agency's Multimodal Planning Division, assists public transportation providers in Greater Arizona by administering Section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Areas.

ADOT will administer the \$35.7 million, which is allocated to the agency under the CARES Act, for 22 public transit providers serving rural Arizona. An additional \$6 million will be transferred as direct federal funding to five tribal communities.

No local matching funds are required to receive this federal funding.

Emergency funding under the federal CARES Act also is directly available to public transportation agencies for which ADOT doesn't administer transit grants: large urban areas, small urban areas and tribes receiving direct funding through the Federal Transit Administration's Tribal Transportation Program.

For more information on ADOT's role in administering transit funding available through the federal CARES Act, please visit azdot.gov/TransitCARES. •



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Arizona Economy May Expect Solid Recovery

By George W. Hammond for AZ Big Media

There is still a huge amount of uncertainty about the future of the outbreak and the economic impacts on the Arizona economy associated with it. Regarding the outbreak, the question at this point is when government and self-imposed social distancing will ease. The April 2020 U.S. forecast from **IHS Markit**, which underpins the Arizona forecasts, assumes that social distancing begins to ease in the July-August period.

The epidemiological uncertainties create economic uncertainties. We are on track for a major downturn, the question is how bad and for how long. This forecast update is the second step in assessing the damage and the recovery. It projects a much more significant adverse shock to the state economy than the March Interim. As more hard data is released in coming months, we will know more about the economic impacts and the prospects for recovery.

For the April U.S. and Arizona forecasts, the baseline projections are assigned a 45 percent probability. The pessimistic scenario has a 35 percent probability and the optimistic scenario has a 20 percent probability. I view the baseline and pessimistic scenarios as being about equally likely.

Arizona Outlook

The national forecast is combined with my assumptions about the

impact of industry shutdowns on employment and retail sales. I assume massive reductions in employment in leisure and hospitality and retail trade and significant shutdowns in personal services and health care, during the second quarter of 2020, driven by the government- and self-imposed social distancing measures.

To give you a sense of the estimated shutdown impact, employment in leisure and hospitality is assumed to drop from 335,000 in the fourth quarter of 2019 to 91,000 in the second quarter of 2020. Trade, transportation, and utilities jobs drop from 546,000 in the last quarter of 2019 to 405,000 in the second quarter. Health care and social services jobs decline by 16,000 jobs as dentists, doctors, and physical therapists avoid non-emergency interactions with patients and clients. Personal services decline by 11,000.

Taxable sales at retail establishments and restaurants and bars also experience a huge decline in the second quarter.

The current baseline projections put the magnitude of the coming downturn at about 50 percent greater than the 2008-2009 recession but shorter in duration. Total nonfarm employment in Arizona declines by 48,000 from the first quarter to the third quarter of 2020. That translates into a peak-to-trough decline of 16.2 percent. For comparison, Arizona lost 305,000 jobs from peak to trough (quarterly) during the Great Recession. That was an 11.4 percent drop.

The state unemployment rate surges to 19.0 percent by the fourth quarter of 2020, but then drops rapidly.

Taxable retail sales decline this year, as job, income, and wealth declines take a toll on consumers.

Population growth slows, with reduced net migration, and that generates lower levels of housing permit activity.

Once we get past the shock this year, the recovery should be solid. Arizona was in very good shape before the outbreak and once the outbreak is under control, growth will accelerate significantly.

Growth rates will look very good initially, because we're restarting large sectors of the economy. The forecast calls for the level of employment to return to its fourth quarter 2019 level by the end of 2022.

The pessimistic scenario assumes a deeper, more prolonged downturn. Arizona jobs decline by 695,000 from the last quarter of 2019 to the third quarter of 2020. That translates into a 23.4 percent drop.

Read more at [AZ Big Media](#).

Arizona Forecast*	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Personal Income (\$ mil)	336,513	336,636	353,851	373,568	392,590
% Chg from Year Ago	5.9%	0.0%	5.1%	5.6%	5.1%
Retail Sales (\$mil)	113,482	92,944	110,214	121,887	126,863
% Chg from Year Ago	6.0%	-18.1%	18.6%	10.6%	4.1%
Total Nonfarm Employment (000s)	2,937.3	2,637.4	2,754.6	2,938.1	3,029.4
% Chg from Year Ago	2.8%	-10.2%	4.4%	6.7%	3.1%
Population (000s), July 1st estimates	7,187	7,268	7,297	7,423	7,526
% Chg from Year Ago	1.6%	1.1%	0.4%	1.7%	1.4%
Residential Building Permits (units)	45,701	40,656	29,142	52,245	45,739
% Chg from Year Ago	9.7%	-11.0%	-28.3%	79.3%	-12.5%

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Pinal Supervisors to Discuss Land Use, Infrastructure

Source: Pinal County

The **Pinal County Board of Supervisors** will hold a public hearing June 3rd to discuss and review the land use assumptions and infrastructure improvement plan associated with the development fees charged by the County.

The hearing will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room at the Administrative Complex, 135 N. Pinal Street, Florence. The board will approve or disapprove the land use assumptions and **IIP** at its the regularly scheduled meeting on July 15th.

A separate public hearing on potential changes to the development fees will be considered after the board has approved or disapproved the land use assumptions and IIP.

A copy of the proposed land use assumptions and IIP is available on the county's [website](#). The **Land Use Assumptions and IIP Draft Report** is available [here](#).

Gilbert to Postpone \$465M Transportation Bond

By Cecilia Chan for Gilbert Sun News

Given the current economic situation and the uncertainty surrounding the future, **Gilbert Town Council** will hold off going to voters this November with a \$465M transportation and infrastructure bond.

Instead, an ad hoc Citizens Transportation Task Force recommended Gilbert put the bond on the November 2nd, 2021 ballot. Council would take a formal vote in June 2021 to do so.

Postponing the election would delay project design by six months, which is not a significant impact, Public Works Director Jessica Marlow told the Council.

The town's funding for transportation projects come from a combination of sources, including **Proposition 400** funds, the **Highway User Revenue Fund**, town enterprise funds and bonds.

Proposition 400, a statewide half-cent sales tax earmarked for transportation, and bond monies make up a big chunk of the town's funding for transportation projects, Marlow said.

The \$465M bond would cover roughly 85 percent of the cost for the 43 proposed transportation and infrastructure projects over a decade, she added.

The projects — which include new construction, reconstruction and technology needs — have not been specified.

Voters last approved a transportation bond in 2007 and since then Gilbert's population has grown 44 percent. From 2001-07, voters passed four transportation bonds totaling \$360M.

Sarah Murley, a consultant, said the economic impact of the proposed bond totaled \$575M total with over 3,500 jobs for the town during the 10-year period.

Every \$1M spent on transportation infrastructure support nine jobs and \$485K in labor income in Gilbert during construction, she said.

Councilwoman Aimee Yentes said she supported the bond going forward, stating "I think it is necessary."

Councilman Jared Taylor said it was wise to defer the bond to next year and suggested "skinny bonds" instead of trying to go for the entire package at once.

Perhaps, he said, the town can prioritize the projects and break up the bond into smaller ones.

Police Chief Michael Soelberg also updated Council on two proposed projects — a family advocacy center to help adult and children crime and the expansion of the police dispatch center. The center was first broached in the Council's spring retreat last year.

He recommended building the 19.3KSF center on town-owned vacant land adjacent to the public safety building. The estimated cost of the center was \$16.4 million, he said.

Yentes said \$16.4M for a 19KSF building worked out to \$850/SF, which was high.

The chief noted that the building would house medical exam rooms with special equipment, interview room, private counseling area and a waiting room for families.

Mayor Jenn Daniels said the town's capital improvement projects include a possible crime lab in the distant future for Gilbert and questioned if police would build such a facility at the proposed site, which is much larger than what the advocacy center would need.

Soelberg also presented the need to expand the department's dispatch center.

He proposed the department take space in the Municipal Court building currently occupied by **Highland Justice Court**.

He explained the justice court was leasing in the building and was scheduled to relocate elsewhere in July 2021. Additionally, space reserved for **Motor Vehicle Services** but never used would give the department a total of 5KSF, according to Soelberg, who estimated the expansion project to cost \$7.9M.

Soelberg requested the funding for both projects be included in the proposed bond election for November 2021.

Read more at [Gilbert Sun News](#).

Business & Industry Events

April 30, 2020

May Webinars

7

WTS Metropolitan Phoenix Virtual Happy Hour

Location: Online
Time: 4:30-5:30pm

11

ULI: 2020 Spring Series

Location: Online
Time: Varies

7

SMPS: Leading Your Firm's Business Development During Crisis

Location: Online
Time: 8:00am

12

ASA AZ: Practical Subcontractor Solutions to Common Legal Disputes in Construction

Location: Online
Time: 12-1:00pm

7

ASA AZ: Reset 2020: Techniques & Solutions to Maneuver Through Economic Constriction

Location: Online
Time: 10:00am

13

National Real Estate: How Past Recessions Can Inform Current Decision Making

Location: Online
Time: 2:00pm

7

ABA: New Revenue Recognition Standards

Location: Online
Time: 9-10:30am

21

WTS Metropolitan Phoenix Virtual Happy Hour

Location: Online
Time: 4:30-5:30pm

****ATTENTION TO ALL FIRMS****

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Project Opportunities

April 30, 2020

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[ADOT Advertised Alternative Delivery Projects](#)

[Bidding Opportunities Around the State](#)

Did You Know?

With all that's happening with COVID-19, OSHA has created a document to help with guidance for the workplace:

[Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)

Please stay safe and healthy!

Featured Federal-Aid Projects

General / Subcontractors Opportunities

Due Date	Project Valuation	DBE Goal	Solicitation / Project Number	Type	Project Owner and Description	Contact
5/1/20 10am REVISED	\$650K- \$750K	3.52%	20PB032	IFB	City of Scottsdale - Delta Apron Rehabilitation Phase 2 & Improvements Project. The work consists of construction of a new parking apron connector, storm drain improvements & taxiway lighting additions/adjustments.	Karie Ingles, Bid & Contract Specialist, at 480-312-5744 or kingles@scottsdaleaz.gov .
5/1/20 11am MST REVISED	\$1.3M	6.07%	180-A(205)T; F006001C	IFB	ADOT - Construct Turn Lanes, B-40 & Aspen Ave, Flagstaff-Valle Hwy (US 180). The work consists of widening by adding turn lanes using Portland Cement Concrete Pavement, installation of curb & gutter, sidewalk, sidewalk ramps, storm drainage pipes, catch basins, traffic signals, pavement markings, & landscaping.	Ghalib Mahdi, Engineering Specialist, at GMahdi@azdot.gov or Steve Monroe, Construction Supervisor, at SMonroe@azdot.gov .
5/27/20 2pm		7%	20114631	IFB	Tucson Airport Authority - Replacement of Automated Weather Observing System, Ryan Airfield. The work consists of replacement of the existing Automated Weather Observation System, including removal/replacement of existing system & tower sections, multi-mode fiber optic cable, #8-480V conductors & additional work.	Dexter De Vera at 520-573-8100.

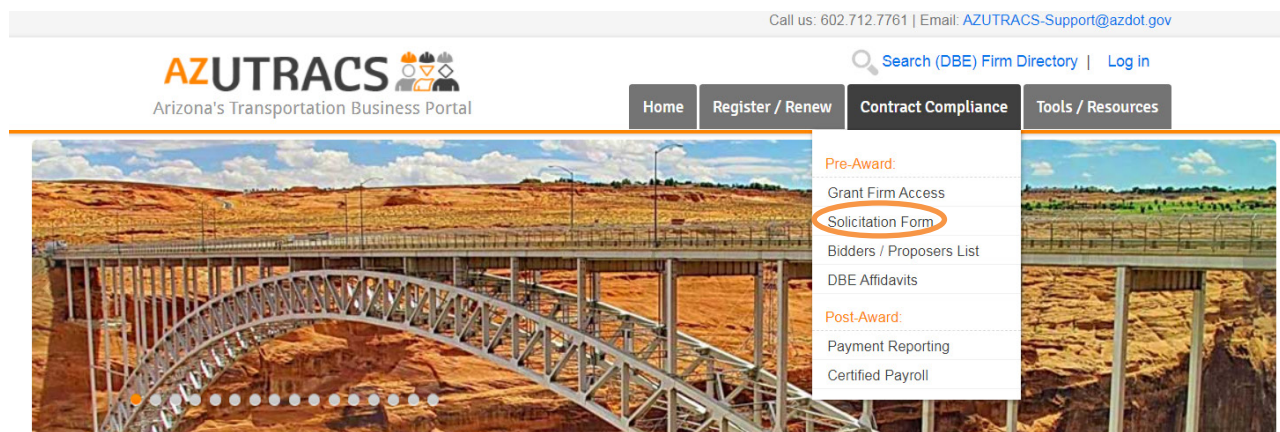


AZ UTRACS Electronic Solicitation Form

www.AZUTRACS.com



Great news! The ADOT Business Engagement and Compliance Office (BECO) implemented a free, self-service way for you to send electronic solicitations through AZ UTRACS. This allows you to send solicitations to a targeted list of firms, or receive solicitations to bid or propose on ADOT projects.



Primes

- **FREE!** This service is totally free
- Send invitations to bid/propose to a targeted audience based on the project details and firm qualifications and/or certifications
- Target multiple types of work with one solicitation
- Assign estimators to manage solicitations & receive responses
- Send an unlimited number of solicitations for both Pre-Award and Post-Award contracts at any time of day
- Solicitations can count toward DBE contract goal Good Faith Efforts (GFE)

Benefits

Subs, DBE's, ACDBE's & SBC's

- **FREE!** This service is totally free
- Receive invitations to bid/propose only for solicitations relevant to your firm's capabilities as described on your AZ UTRACS profile and, if applicable, your certification record
- New networking opportunities
- Know whether solicitations are from Pre-Award or Post-Award primes before you bid/propose
- Get recognized and contacted for jobs based on your firm's unique qualifications



CLICK HERE to view an 'AZ UTRACS Solicitation Form' how-to video.

Who can use this new tool? All firms registered with AZ UTRACS

Where can I get more information about it? Receive more information on the [Solicitation Form landing page](#) as well as in the [AZ UTRACS user manual](#).

No time to read the user manual? Check out the [Solicitation Form Quick Tips](#) on the AZ UTRACS website.

LAUNCHED END OF MARCH 2020