93 1 US 93/Interstate 40 West Kingman Traffic Interchange Draft Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Design Concept Report

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Arizona Department of Transportation, in coordination with the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Federal Highway Administration is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) and developing a preliminary design concept for the US 93/Interstate 40 (I-40) Traffic Interchange (TI). A study was initiated in 2007 to investigate ways for improving traffic flow at the junction of I-40 and US 93 in west Kingman. In January 2019, ADOT began efforts to implement the preliminary design concept which provides a preferred alternative.

The general location for the project is along I-40 between the Shinarump Drive TI and the Stockton Hill Road TI and along US 93 between the State Route 68 TI (near the Port of Entry) and the existing Beale Street TI where US 93 connects with I-40.

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The Draft EA and associated technical reports assess the impacts of the preferred alternative against the No Build Alternative. The Draft EA evaluates potential social, economic and natural environmental impacts on multiple environmental resource categories, including air and water quality, biological resources, land use, noise, and neighborhood and community impacts. The Draft EA has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The No Build Alternative is used as a baseline to compare against the preferred alternative in order to understand the condition of the project area in the future with limited improvements. This comparison also shows how the preliminary design concept could influence the Study Area. The alternative carried forward in the preliminary design concept is the preferred build alternative because it balances the project earthwork, reduces impacts to adjacent lands, and prioritizes traffic movements. This alternative is carried forward and evaluated in the Draft EA.

PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPT

The purpose of this project is to reduce congestion, improve local access and improve travel between I-40 and US 93. The new TI would accommodate both current and projected traffic volumes for the next 25 years.

ADOT is advancing the preliminary design concept in cooperation with input received from its major stakeholders, including the city of Kingman,



Mohave County, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the public. The preliminary design concept has been refined for presentation to the public as part of the NEPA process. If approved, the design will continue in preparation for construction of the project when funding is available.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

ADOT does not have the funds to build all the improvements of a full TI at one time. Thus, the project would be built in two phases, with the ramps facilitating the Phoenix–Las Vegas movement being constructed in the first phase.

Phase I of the project is currently included in ADOT's 5-year construction program and scheduled to begin construction in late 2023/early 2024. The new TI will help reduce traffic congestion by allowing motorists to continue southbound on US 93 and westbound to Las Vegas on I-40 without having to use Beale Street. Drivers will still be given the option to exit both highways at Beale Street to access local businesses, US 66, and downtown Kingman.

Phase II would construct the ramp between Las Vegas and Los Angeles when traffic demands suggest the improvements are needed and when the funding can be programmed into the 5-year plan.

May 21, 2020



COMMENT ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Submit your comments on the US 93/I-40 West Kingman TI Draft EA during the formal comment period from May 7, through June 6, 2020. All comments received on or before Saturday, June 6, 2020 will be documented and responded to in the Final EA, scheduled to be published and made available for public review online in summer 2020.

SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS:

• During the call-in public hearing.

- Register by visiting: https://vekeo.com/adotwestkingmantip/ before 5 p.m. Thursday, May 28, 2020 to receive a call at the time of the event inviting you to join.
- Call 833.380.0669 at the time of the event.

All comment methods are considered equal.

To request reasonable accommodation, or if you do not have access to the technology needed to participate in the public hearing or attain the project information relevant to the hearing, please contact Michele Beggs at 928.681.6054 no later than May 21, 2020.

Para solicitar ajustes razonables, o si no tiene acceso a la tecnología necesaria para participar en la audiencia pública u obtener la información del proyecto pertinente para la audiencia, comuníquese con Michele Beggs al 928.681.6054 a más tardar el 21 de mayo de 2020.

PARTICIPATE IN THE VIRTUAL, CALL-IN ONLY PUBLIC HEARING

As public safety and health continue to be the top priority in these unprecedented times, the Arizona Department of Transportation will hold a call-in only public hearing at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 28, 2020 to collect verbal public comments for the US 93/I-40 West Kingman TI Draft EA.

There are two ways to participate:

- Register by visiting https://vekeo.com/adotwestkingmantip/ before 5 p.m. Thursday, May 28, 2020 to receive a call at the time of the event inviting you to join.
- Call 833.380.0669 at the time of the event.

DON'T WANT TO CALL IN, BUT WOULD LIKE TO LISTEN? ADOT will air the call-in public hearing live on the following Kingman area radio stations:

94.1 FM | 97.5 FM | 1490 AM

Please visit the study website for study related information, including the Draft EA, technical reports, presentation, fact sheet, display boards and maps. The presentation will be made available on the website by 5 p.m. Thursday, May 28, 2020. **THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020**

Through the website via online comment form at:

azdot.gov/WestKingmanTIP

By phone at: 602.474.3919.

Through USPS mail at:

By email at: WestKingmanTI@hdrinc.com.

West Kingman TI Study Team c/o HDR, Inc. 20 E. Thomas Road Ste. 2500, Phoenix, AZ 85012.

> 6:00–6:05 p.m. Welcome and Introduction of Panel

6:05-6:30 p.m. Presentation

6:30–7:30 p.m. Call-In Public Hearing

(You will also be able to listen to other public comments about the Draft EA while on the phone. The public hearing will end at 7:30 p.m.)

The public hearing will present information on the environmental impacts of the preferred alternative and accept formal public comments on the Draft EA and preliminary design concept. Callers will be able to verbally submit comments through the call-in public hearing. A panel of study team members will be on the call, and a court reporter will transcribe all the verbal comments made during the public hearing.

Project-related questions will not be answered by study team members during the call-in public hearing. Questions about the project should be submitted during the formal public comment period through the options listed above.