



RAMPING UP for the Future

STATE ROUTE 189: International Border to Grand Avenue

PROJECT NEWSLETTER — SEPTEMBER 2020

A bimonthly newsletter from the Arizona Department of Transportation to share important information about the State Route 189 project

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This exciting project to improve approximately 3.75 miles of State Route 189, known locally as Mariposa Road, is being delivered using the “design-build” approach, in which both design and construction take place at the same time. The \$138 million Arizona Department of Transportation project includes construction of elevated flyover ramps connecting SR 189 with Interstate 19, widening of Mariposa Road between the Port of Entry and the intersection with Grand Avenue, and construction of a roundabout at Target Range Road.



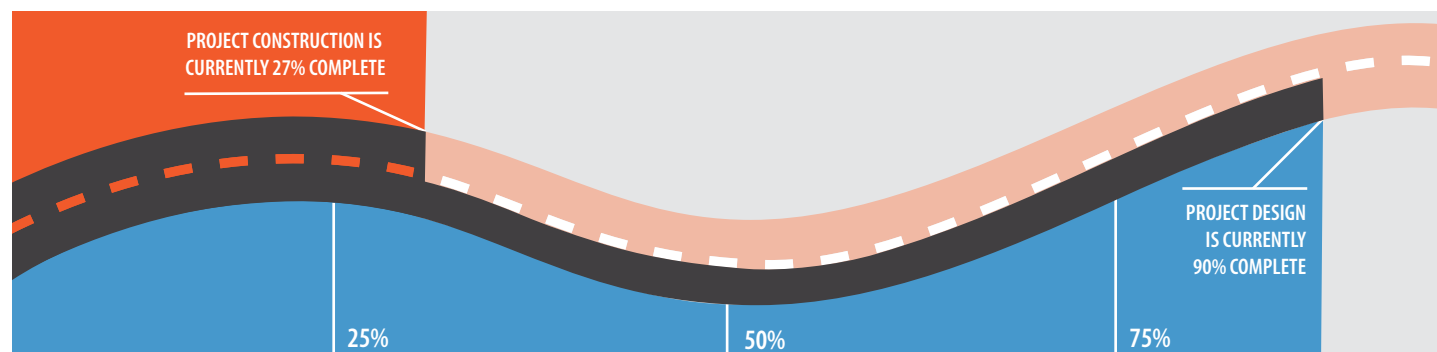
Not to scale



PROJECT PROGRESS

Crews have begun by drilling shafts and constructing the piers that will support the new flyover ramps connecting SR 189 and I-19 on the east side of the interstate. Travel restrictions may occur during portions of this work. To receive updates by email, please subscribe at <https://adot.gov/SR189>.

Horrocks Engineering will complete the project design in September 2020. The project, being built by Ames Construction, is scheduled for completion in fall 2021. Schedules are subject to change because of weather and unforeseen conditions.



SR 189 PROJECT HAS FAR-REACHING BENEFITS

While local and state officials and many stakeholders have made clear the importance of the long-anticipated project to improve Mariposa Road between the Port of Entry and Grand Avenue to Nogales and Southern Arizona, the reach of its benefits goes much further.

“Those who see the modernization of SR 189 as a Nogales road project are simply missing the point,” said Jaime Chamberlain, chairman of the Greater Nogales-Santa Cruz County Port Authority. “It is a critical junction of the corridor from Mexico City, touching on eight Mexican states and the U.S. federal highway systems.”

That far-flung connection means major commerce on both sides of the border and across the United States, Chamberlain said.

“According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, almost \$30 billion worth of goods crosses through Nogales (annually) and they depend on SR 189 to get from the Mariposa Port of Entry to I-19,” he said. “This project will keep Arizona’s principal trade corridor competitive when compared to corridors that lead to Texas and California. This project is for Nogales, for Arizona and for the nation.”

GREATLY IMPROVED TRAFFIC EFFICIENCY

The Arizona Department of Transportation is improving SR 189 between the Mariposa Port of Entry and Grand Avenue to make commercial truck traffic safer and more efficient.

- Flyover ramps eliminate delays getting on and off Interstate 19.
- A roundabout and other traffic control improvements eliminate the need to stop as many as three times between the border and I-19.
- Two additional multipurpose lanes increase capacity and travel efficiency.
- The improvements should save more than 10 minutes in travel time per northbound truck.



Jaime Chamberlain, chairman of the Greater Nogales-Santa Cruz County Port Authority



REDUCED TRAVEL TIME

Project will save
10 MINUTES
per northbound truck

“ THIS IS A HUGE SYSTEMS SAVINGS.
IT REDUCES EMISSIONS AND MAKES THE
WHOLE SUPPLY CHAIN MORE EFFICIENT.”

Lance Jungmeyer, president
Fresh Produce Association of the Americas

MEET THE TEAM

CHRIS PAGE, RESIDENT ENGINEER

Ask Chris Page about his seven years at the Arizona Department of Transportation and you'll hear about a handful of (hard) hats he's worn for the agency.

As a traffic engineering specialist, Page made decisions about speed limits, roadside signage and other rules and regulations to keep drivers safe. After becoming a registered engineer, he moved to construction as a resident engineer, managing projects along State Route 86 on the Tohono O'odham Nation.

In 2017, the University of Arizona graduate took his young family to Prescott, where he became a senior resident engineer, supervising ADOT staff who manage individual construction projects.

While he rose through the organization, it was the hands-on management of construction that fed his professional soul. "It's fast-paced and challenging," he said of working as a resident



"This is the first time I have worked on a design-build project," he said, referring to the selected project delivery for the effort, which has both design and construction occurring simultaneously throughout the project schedule. "This is especially interesting to me as I get to follow the project all the way from contract negotiation to final construction."

As resident engineer on the Nogales project, Page has a true public servant's view of his role.

"It is difficult to describe in one sentence, but if I had to, it would be to ensure the taxpayers are getting a safe and quality facility when I walk away at the end. Part of that is also ensuring on a day-to-day basis that the project is being constructed safely and minimizes the impacts to the traveling public, and perhaps especially on this project, the commerce."

"I feel fortunate to be able to work on this project. I also feel a great sense of responsibility as this interchange brings so much commerce into the state and beyond," he said. "So it is very important to me that it is a quality project and serves the community and industry well into the future."

Page, who is married and has a 5-year-old daughter, says the highlighted project takes time from hobbies such as golfing and carpentry, but it doesn't interfere with fatherhood. "She loves to swim every single day in the summer," Page said of his daughter. "I am sure I'll be doing that when I get home."

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engineer. "I love being part of a team that can turn a set of plans into a facility that makes a positive impact on the lives of the citizens we serve."

And with the start of construction on the project to improve State Route 189 between the Mariposa Port of Entry and Grand Avenue, he has reached the highlight of his young career.

HOW TO CONTACT THE ADOT PROJECT TEAM

Project Email: SR189@azdot.gov • Project Hotline: 1.833.613.0496 • Project Website: www.azdot.gov/SR189