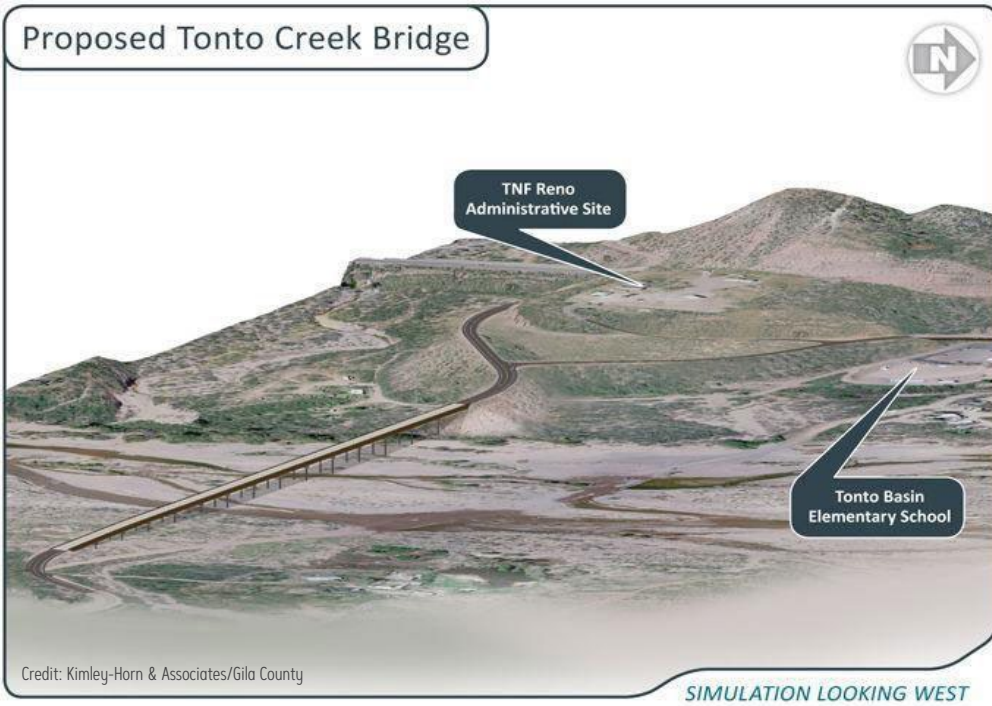


Business Engagement and Compliance

Gila Officials Working on Agreements for Tonto Creek Bridge

Representatives of **Gila County**, **The Arizona Department of Transportation** and the **Federal Highway Administration** are working on intergovernmental agreements that will eventually lead to the construction of a \$24M, nearly 2,000-foot-long bridge over **Tonto Creek** south of Payson.

Between the required agreements, environmental studies, plan updates and securing bids, it could be two years before construction begins. ADOT will administer the project once agreements are in place. Gila County was awarded a **Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development** grant of \$21M for the project, and the county will contribute another \$3.38M. ([Source](#))



Credit: Kimley-Horn & Associates/Gila County

SIMULATION LOOKING WEST



Gila Officials Working on Agreements for Tonto Creek Bridge



2020 is Coming to an End..... 31 Ideas to Stick the Landing and Look Ahead to 2021



West-MEC CTE Program Helps Shrink Labor Shortage



Phoenix Planning \$205M in Semiconductor Plant Infrastructure

- ▶ **EVENTS**
- ▶ **OPPORTUNITIES**
- ▶ **EXTERNAL LINKS**



NEWLY CERTIFIED DBE FIRMS:

- B&L Supply Inc of Colorado
- Image Concepts
- Big Apple Tire, Inc.
- Lucid Logistics LLC
- All Star Masonry
- S. Rowe Consulting LLC
- M.S. Clark Enterprises, Inc.
- Theuracare Inc.
- Euclid Energy LLC
- Rfwel Engineering Llc
- Team Work Electric, LLC
- U Street Parking, Inc.
- US Eco Products Corporation

2020 is coming to an end.....

31 Ideas to stick the landing and look ahead to 2021

1 month. 31 days. 4 Mondays.
5 Wednesdays. 5 Thursdays. 5
Fridays. 1 major holiday season.

744 hours.

(By the way, that's the same
number of hours in January, March,
May, July, August, and October!)

December seems like one of the
hardest months for business
owners, and this year is no differ-
ent. In fact, December 2020 may
be one for the records. Pandemic
uncertainty. Business continuity.
Employee safety. Entrepreneurial
concern. Bottom-line focus.

Don't wait for the end of the year
to come to you. Small steps can
lead to big results, so consider
the following 31 action items to
improve yourself, your company,
and your 2021 mindset.

1. Buy your 2021 calendar/planner. Add birthdays, holidays, and key events.
2. Spend unused budgets or make wise purchases before year-end to save on taxes.
3. Call a client and let them know that you appreciate their business.

4. Thank Goodness It's Friday! (TGIF) Turn up the volume and dance to your favorite song. Invite employees to join you.

5. Accomplish one chore at home that you've been putting off.

6. Rest.

7. Clean off one surface in your office (bookshelf, side table, desk, etc.)

8. Have a "walkie talkie" with an employee. Instead of meeting inside, take the meeting outside and get some fresh air.

9. Call a vendor or supplier and wish them a happy holiday season. That's all.

10. Spend time with family. If appropriate, celebrate beginning of Hanukkah.

11. TGIF! Have a popcorn party (store-bought or airpopped). Add lemon pepper or chili powder to spice it up!

12. Sweep your garage, carport or front porch area.

13. Rest.

14. Take a 15-minute break and write down three things you want to accomplish in 2021. Write them on a big sheet of paper or whiteboard. Leave room for more thoughts.

15. Meet a client for a cup of coffee, virtual or in-person.

16. Make eye contact with a stranger, **smile**, and hold eye contact for 10 seconds.

17. Thank your spouse or significant partner for their support of your business.

18. TGIF! Gather your employees together and tell business-appropriate jokes for 15 minutes. Laugh a lot.

19. Bake cookies and give them away.

20. Rest.

21. Take those three things you want to accomplish and add a first step that you can take before the end of the year to get ready to start on January 4 (the first Monday in January). Leave room for at least one future step.

22. Schedule two dental appointments for 2021.

23. Floss.

24. Take a walk with a spouse, partner, child, sibling, parent or neighbor.

25. Spend time with family. If appropriate, celebrate Christmas.

26. Spend at least 30 minutes in self-care. Do a hobby. Pamper yourself. Take a nap.

27. Rest.

28. Clean off at least two more surfaces in your office.

29. Look at those three goals and first steps, and add a second step, adding a date before January 30 to accomplish.

30. Buy *Essentialism: The Disciplined Pursuit of Less* by Greg McKeown. Complete the book by January 31, 2021. [Amazon link](#)

31. Spend at least 15 minutes in front of the mirror and congratulate the person you see for their courage, resilience, and strength during 2020. Smile! Laugh! Clap your hands! Give a high five!

Wake up on January 1, 2021, with a fresh mindset and a list of three goals and a pair of steps that get you on the way to business success.

West-MEC CTE Program Helps Shrink Labor Shortage

America is dealing with an unprecedented shortage of skilled labor. The **Department of Labor** reports that while there are 7.6 million unfilled jobs, only 6.5 million people were looking for work. This is the same situation in Arizona.

The industries seeing the largest talent gap are construction, healthcare and personal care, followed by computer and mathematical occupation. Better than average employment and a shortage of employable workers may leave the Arizona economy in a tough spot.

Career and Technical Education programs may be the answer. CTE program education gives students the academic, technical and employability skills needed for workplace success.

A local Arizona CTE public school district is preparing more than 37,000 students from 48 high schools in the North and West Phoenix Metropolitan area with the skills and certifications needed to obtain careers in the industries that desperately need young talent to help replace an aging group of tradespeople who are getting ready to retire.

Construction

The skills gap in construction is well known. Baby boomers are reaching retirement age, leaving a large space for younger workers to step in. In fact, according to the **2019 Wells Fargo Construction Industry Forecast**, the utmost cost concern of contractors was access to qualified workers.

CTE programs, like the one at **Western Maricopa Education Center** help to prepare students to enter both the commercial and residential construction industries. Students learn about safe work practices, construction diagrams, concrete and masonry equipment, concrete formwork, concrete placement methods and finishing techniques, structural concrete and masonry applications, inspection protocols, product testing, and quality control.

Specialized programs are a good way for students to develop into a specific niche, which will be important as the industry continues to move forward in the age of automation and technology.

At **West-MEC**, the Electrical Trade Specialty program introduces students to the elements of electrical systems. Students perform maintenance on electrical circuits, work with control systems and install lighting, and motors.

CTE programs often even provide opportunities to learn and work in a real-life scenario. The Energy and Industrial Technology Program at West-MEC is run in close partnership with **APS, Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Facility** and **Estrella Mountain Community College**.

This model of hands-on-learning strengthens both general knowledge and specific skill sets, ensuring students are prepared and qualified for future opportunities. ([Source](#))





Phoenix Planning \$205M in Semiconductor Plant Infrastructure

Phoenix will spend up to \$205M for public infrastructure in support of a planned \$12B factory planned by **Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd.** City Council unanimously approved the spending, which will include street, sidewalk, water and wastewater projects, in a recent meeting.

The plant's final location has yet to be confirmed, but it has been widely speculated the site will be in north Phoenix near I-17 and Loop 303. ([Source](#))



Credit: City of Phoenix

Business Engagement and Compliance



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

Need help preparing DBE Affidavits?
Please see our tutorial video below:

["Preparing DBE Affidavits"](#)



DECEMBER

- 8** PMI Tucson Holiday Party
5:30pm-7:30pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 9** Local First: Streamlining Your Back Office and Building Team Culture to Come Back Stronger in 2021
12:00pm-1:00pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 9** USGB: Sustainable Design Using Precast Concrete
11:45am-1:00pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 9** ACEC Arizona & Maricopa County Virtual Liaison
11:45am-1:00pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 9** AAED: Let's Talk Tourism: An Events and Professional Education Collaboration (2-day event)
11:30am
Location: *Online Only*
- 10** ABA: 27th Annual Leadership Luncheon
11:30am - 1:30pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 10** CSI Phoenix Holiday Party
11:30am - 1:30pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 14** Valley Partnership & Arizona Commerce Authority: Arizona Economic Resiliency Webinar Series #3
1:00pm-2:00pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 15** NAIOP: The Forces Shaping Office Space Demand Webinar (2020)
12:00pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 15** DBIA-Western: Allegiant Stadium: A Rare Look Inside The Home Of The Nfl's Las Vegas Raiders
10:25am - 11:45am
Location: *Online Only*
- 17** AZ Green Chamber: Community Networking With Breakout Sessions
5:00pm-6:15pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 17** LAI: Holiday Party/New Member Induction
11:30am - 1:00pm
Location: *Online Only*
- 18** APWA: Monthly Membership Monthly
7:15am - 9:00am
Location: *Online Only*

Featured Federal-Aid Projects

CURRENT OPEN SOLICITATIONS

Due Date	Project Valuation	DBE Goal	Solicitation / Project Number	Type	Project Owner and Description	Contact
12/8/20 2pm REVISED		9.69%.	ST87100169; 6000001045	IFB	City of Phoenix - Roeser Road: 32nd Street to 37th Street. The work consists of roadway widening, including 20 new streetlights, placement of approx. 2,884 tons of asphalt concrete surface course & 6,838 SY of subgrade preparation, new sidewalk, curb & gutter; several driveways, curb ramps, bus stop improvements & drainage improvements.	Kathleen Lewis, Contracts Specialist, at 602-534-5789 or kathleen.lewis@phoenix.gov .
12/11/20 11am MST	\$9.8M	5.44%	040-C(217)T; H877701C	IFB	ADOT - Bridge Replacement Re-Bid, West Flagstaff TI Overpass EB/WB, Ashfork-Flagstaff Hwy (I-40). The work consists of replacing existing 3-span concrete T-girder bridges in eastbound & westbound direction with new single-span precast, prestressed AASHTO Box Beam bridges, including widening of approach roadway, replacing guardrail, & replacing pavement markings.	Iqbal Hossain, Group Manager of Contracts & Specifications, at ihossain@azdot.gov .
12/11/20 11am MST	\$590K	7.88%.	095-D(219)T; F024501C	IFB	ADOT - Construct SB Right Turn Lane, State Route 95 & Marina Blvd, Bullhead City. The work consists of the installation of a right turn lane.	Iqbal Hossain, Group Manager of Contracts & Specifications, at ihossain@azdot.gov .

External Links:

[ADOT Current Advertisements](#)
[ADOT Advertised Alternative Delivery Projects](#)
[ADOT Engineering Advertisements](#)
[Bidding Opportunities Around the State](#)
[ADOT Public-Private Partnership Initiatives](#)

DBE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM

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