

## Business Engagement and Compliance

### NW Light Rail Extension Awarded \$50M+ in Grants

Valley Metro's Northwest Phase II Light Rail Extension project has been awarded \$49.4M in Capital Investment Grants and a \$1M planning grant by the Federal Transit Administration.

The 1.6-mile project will extend light rail to **Metrocenter Mall** from its current site at 19th and West Dunlap avenues. Construction is targeted for completion in November of 2024. Sewer and other utility relocation work is already underway.

Earlier in December, FTA announced it intends to award Valley Metro's **South Central Extension/Downtown Hub** projects a grant of \$530M. ([Source](#))



Credit: Jacobs Engineering Group/Valley Metro



### NEWLY CERTIFIED DBE FIRMS:

- Widefield Technology, Inc.
- Estate Media, LLC
- C Evans Consulting LLC
- Bennett Bolt Works INC
- Phaeton Solutions LLC
- Clarity Scientific LLC
- K&J BURGERS LLC
- Puresky LLC  
dba International Card Solutions
- Longreen Express INC.
- Triple B Concrete Inc
- Alex San Andres
- WD Schock Company  
DBA The LTL-Schock Group
- Suzann Rhodes LLC
- MD Consulting
- Janice M. Stapleman  
DBA Fearless Communications



### South Central Light Rail Gets Federal Funding



### Great Website Resources That Improve Your Life



### Construction Has Highest COVID Positivity Rates



### Florence to See Bridge, Roundabout in 2022



### Enrollment Open for Habitat's Spring CIT Program

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

## Great Website Resources That Improve Your Life

*Solutions that improve productivity and operations might be just a click away.*

The internet is a really big place.\*

4.6 billion of users

5.1 billion mobile phone users

2 billion online shoppers

3.7 billion social media users

175ZB of information available online by 2025. (That Zettabytes.)

For number lovers, here's what that means:

- A gigabyte is 1,024 megabytes
- A terabyte is 1,024 gigabytes
- A petabyte is 1,024 terabytes
- An exabyte is 1,024 petabytes
- A zettabyte is 1,024 exabytes (so that's 1,048,576 petabytes, 1,073,741,824 terabytes, 1,099,511,627,776 gigabytes, or 1,125,899,910,000,000 megabytes!)

That's a lot of information!

From emails to Google searches, and from tweets posted to Instagram images uploaded or YouTube videos viewed, there's a lot of information out there.

Most business owners know there are a lot of free and user-friendly online resources to help them manage their business. The problem is, there's so much information to wade through, it becomes a time-consuming, eyesight draining process, which leaves you overwhelmed. You might even give up looking for a helpful resource or useful service.

We're here to help. Check out the websites below for resources to help you market your business, track projects, or keep your business running smoothly. We're not endorsing any of these sites, and there are others that may be just as helpful. If you're looking for some great tools, we're glad to share our favorites.

Enjoy these suggestions!

[www.pixabay.com](http://www.pixabay.com) – high quality, royalty free images for marketing and communications (FREE)

[www.visualthesaurus.com](http://www.visualthesaurus.com) – literally, a visual tool to help when you need just the right word for a proposal or flyer. (\$19.95 per year)

[www.asana.com](http://www.asana.com) – a user-friendly program to help you manage tasks and projects. It's especially helpful because it can be used across multiple devices so you're always on top of activities and deadlines. (FREE + Upgrade versions)

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## Great Website Resources That Improve Your Life (Cont'd)

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[www.freeconferenceca.com](http://www.freeconferenceca.com) – as the name says, a free conference calling program. (FREE)

[www.miro.com](http://www.miro.com) – a great tool to help teams collaborate online. (FREE + Upgrades)

[learning.linkedin.com/](http://learning.linkedin.com/) was previously Lynda, a robust online platform for a large variety of topics. Now, you can subscribe to more than 16,000 free and paid courses. There are different subscription levels, and well worth the investment if there are topics that you or your team members need to learn in more depth. (FREE + Upgrades)

[www.udemy.com](http://www.udemy.com) is another online learning platform with a large variety of free classes that help business owners, including marketing, finance & accounting, IT & software, etc. (FREE + Upgrades)

Try a Pomodoro app on your phone (It's Italian for tomato. Think of a kitchen timer in the shape of a tomato.) Upload this clever time management app to help you stay focused for 25 minutes, then get a 5 minute break, and then get back to focused work for another 25 minutes. When you find yourself becoming distracted, this handy helper helps you stay on track in manageable spurts of time so you shorten your "to do" list faster than ever. (Check out "Focus to Do" in your mobile app store.)

[www.mindful.org](http://www.mindful.org) helps business owners stay focused with email newsletters, publications, and tips on health and meditation. (FREE)

[www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) is the U.S. Small Business Administration that provides tremendous resources for planning, running, and growing your business. (FREE)

Finally, if you search "free business resources" in Google, you'll find more than 3.1 billion links to articles and lists to help you manage your business.

So, still looking for business solutions?

Ask your family and friends about their favorite helpful websites. You might find a time-saving tool that makes a big difference in your daily operations.

Search through your phone apps for the most popular business apps.

Ask your favorite clients or customers what programs, platforms, and apps they love. This is a great topic to start a relationship-building conversation.

Cheers to kicking off 2021 with new insights and tools to help your business thrive!

*Statistics from NodeGraph, The 2020 Online Big Data Facts, 2019 data. •*

## ADOT DBE Joint Task Force Meeting (Virtual)

**Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2021**

### Meeting Schedule:

**1:30pm** Facilitated Chat with ADOT

**2:00pm - 3:30pm** Joint Task Force Meeting

**3:30pm - 4:00pm** Facilitated Networking

**REGISTER HERE**

## Construction Has Highest COVID Positivity Rates

A study administered by testing firm **Curative** showed construction workers have the highest **COVID-19** positivity rates for asymptomatic cases across all occupations. In examining the results of more than 730,000 tests, the study found construction workers showed a positivity rate of 5.7 percent for individuals without symptoms. Food service workers were next at 3.8 percent. For cases with symptoms, construction workers were 10.1 percent, second only to corrections staff at 12.5 percent. Several other recent studies have also shown construction workers to be among the leading demographics for positive coronavirus tests. ([Source](#))



## Florence to See Bridge, Roundabout in 2022

2022 could see two major transportation projects coming to Florence. The first will be replacing the **Gila River Bridge** on SR 79. Florence has been working with consultants and the **Arizona Department of Transportation** for two years on plans for the project. Construction was originally planned for 2020, then 2023, and now the target is 2022. To minimize closures and traffic impacts, the bridge will be constructed off-site and slid into place.

Also planned for 2022 is construction of the town's first roundabout at the intersection of state routes 79B and 287. Design work is planned for completion this year, with construction commencing in 2022. ([Source](#))



Credit: Mark Cowling/PinalCentral

## Enrollment Open for Habitat's Spring CIT Program

The **Habitat for Humanity Construction in Training** pre-apprenticeship program is a 16-week, fast track, on the job training program. The program is uniquely designed as an immersive and intensive curriculum that specializes in basic core construction fundamentals, leadership and soft skills development for participants ages 18 and over that are disenfranchised, underserved, underemployed and at-risk of being left out of the economy.

The specialized training curriculum integrates technical, behavior and mindset skills where on the job failure is most likely to occur. Most of the job technical training curriculum emphasizes on practical skills. Assessment is done on a regular basis throughout the program focusing on attendance, literacy, and construction math gains for each participant through an individual development plan.

Keeping with Habitat's vision, mission and values, our focused CIT candidates will work together with sponsors to build a new affordable home for their community and have other hands on opportunities through our Aging in Place, Neighborhood Revitalization, and Emergency Service departments. This OJT will strengthen the CIT trainees job placement transition opportunities with all state and national construction apprenticeship programs.

For more information or to make a contribution in support, contact Hugh Wolf, director of training & education, at 602-268-9022 or [hwolf@habitatcaz.org](mailto:hwolf@habitatcaz.org). ([Source](#))



### Business Engagement and Compliance



#### **\*\*ATTENTION TO ALL FIRMS\*\***

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

["Preparing DBE Affidavits"](#)



## JANUARY

**13** Virtual Smgs Member Appreciation Mixer  
4:00pm  
Location: *Online Only*

**13** ABA Seminar: Workers Compensation  
11:30am  
Location: *Online Only*

**14** AZCREW: Virtual Brown Bag - Building Resilience During COVID 19 Mind, Body and Spirit  
11:30am - 1:30pm  
Location: *Online Only*

**15** MPA: Virtual Monthly Membership Breakfast  
8:00am - 9:00am  
Location: *Online Only*

**20** ULI Arizona WLI Leadership Series with Marilee Utter  
4:00pm - 5:00pm  
Location: *Online Only*

**21** AZ Water Association: Luncheon: ASU COVID-19 Wastewater Study  
11:30am  
Location: *Online Only*

**21** SMPS: Marketing Mambo  
11:00am - 12:00pm  
Location: *Online Only*

**21** AACE Meeting and Networking  
3:00pm - 5:00pm  
Location: *Online Only*

**21** ASA AZ: Commercial Construction Forum  
7:30am - 9:00am  
Location: *Online Only*

**26** ACEC: Arizona & City of Phoenix Virtual Liaison  
8:00am - 9:00am  
Location: *Online Only*

**27** AZ Crew: What is in Store for 2021 - The Global and Real Estate Market Outlook  
11:00am-12:00pm  
Location: *Online Only*

## FEBRUARY

**11** 2021 CREW Network Winter Leadership Summit  
11:00am-7:00pm  
Location: *Online Only*

**22** Valley Partnership: Arizona Economic Resiliency Webinar Series #4  
1:00pm-2:00pm  
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
1/22/21 11am MST	\$2.8M	10.13%	010-F(228)T; F012601C	<a href="#">IFB</a>	ADOT - Bridge Rehabilitation, W. Willcox TI Underpass, Benson - Willcox Hwy (I-10). The work consists of replacing the existing bridge deck & barriers, including milling & placing asphaltic concrete, replacing guardrail & guardrail end terminals, signing, & striping. DBE Goal of 10.13%.	Iqbal Hossain, Group Manager of Contracts & Specifications, at <a href="mailto:ihossain@azdot.gov">ihossain@azdot.gov</a> .
1/22/21 11am MST	\$3M	4.07%	073-A(207)T; F010901C	<a href="#">IFB</a>	ADOT - Bridge Deck Replacement Re-Bid, Post Office Canyon Bridge Str No. 981, Carrizo-Whiteriver-Ind Pines (SR 73). The work consists of bridge deck replacement with a new reinforced concrete deck, placing asphaltic concrete (Misc. Structural) & installing guardrail, including replacing the bridge barrier transitions, new approach slab, & placing pavement markings. DBE Goal of 4.07%.	Iqbal Hossain, Group Manager of Contracts & Specifications, at <a href="mailto:ihossain@azdot.gov">ihossain@azdot.gov</a> .
1/29/21 11am MST	\$2.5M	10.19%	040-B(228)T; F016301C	<a href="#">IFB</a>	ADOT - Bridge Deck Replacement & Scour Retrofit, Pineveta Draw Bridge Eastbound & Westbound, Kingman - Ashfork Hwy (I-40). The work consists of deck replacement & scour retrofit, including removing & reinstalling bridge decks & approach slabs, installing concrete floor across the existing bridge channel between bridge piers, constructing new concrete barrier, slope paving, & pavement marking.	Iqbal Hossain, Group Manager of Contracts & Specifications, at <a href="mailto:ihossain@azdot.gov">ihossain@azdot.gov</a> .

## 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

1801 W. Jefferson, Suite 101, Phoenix AZ

(602) 712-7761

[DBESupportiveServices@azdot.gov](mailto:DBESupportiveServices@azdot.gov)