



State of Arizona

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Governor Jan Brewer Applauds Transportation Progress From Recovery Act Funds

40 projects awarded contracts; 484 jobs created or sustained in May and June

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today announced the Arizona Department of Transportation is making significant progress on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) transportation projects, with 11 highway projects under construction and one project completed. With 484 transportation jobs having already been created or sustained during the months of May and June, Arizona is well on its way to achieving the goal of 6,000 direct jobs through ADOT's active ARRA projects.

"Despite these challenging economic times, Arizona is building a solid foundation for the future of our transportation infrastructure," said Governor Jan Brewer. "A tremendous amount of time and effort has been devoted by our transportation professionals to navigate the federal stimulus bill's requirements and secure millions of dollars in construction funds."

The State of Arizona recently received approval from the U.S. Department of Transportation to utilize stimulus funding for a very significant project in Maricopa County, the US 60/Grand Avenue widening project between Loop 303 and 99th Avenue in the West Valley. It's also Arizona's largest ARRA project—costing an estimated \$45 million to add one lane in each direction through a 10-mile stretch.

"Arizona continues to stand out as a leader among all the states in getting funds obligated for ARRA projects and getting those projects to construction," said John Halikowski, Director of the

Arizona Department of Transportation. “We have more than 40 Recovery Act projects that are moving forward and we expect several more to be approved, due to the significant cost savings we’ve seen from project bids. It’s a win-win situation for all Arizonans as we stimulate our economy, construct roads that drivers have been requesting, and meet the goals of our state program.”

ADOT has seen a 17.1 percent average savings for ARRA projects that have gone through the bid opening process to date and has recorded a \$27.8 million cost savings to date, when comparing State estimates to low bids, which will, in turn, fund additional projects across the state. Thirty-eight of the ARRA projects that have gone through the bid opening process have produced a cost savings.

The Department is exceeding federal requirements for obligating the funds and is ahead of schedule on the requirement to obligate 50 percent of the funding within 120 days. ADOT will have 100 percent of the funds obligated before the one-year deadline. The Department was recently recognized by the White House and the U.S. Department of Transportation for its efforts in successfully obligating funding.

ADOT will receive an estimated \$350 million for its highway projects statewide. Forty projects have been awarded contracts by the State Transportation Board. The remaining projects have contractor bids under review, have been advertised for contractors to submit bids or are preparing plans so contractors can bid on the projects.

For more information about ADOT’s ARRA projects, visit www.azdot.gov/recovery and www.azrecovery.gov.

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