

Attention Editors/Reporters: Photos of the May 10 public meeting in Casa Grande for the Interstate 11 environmental study are attached. Please give photo credit to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

For Immediate Release: May 31, 2017
Contact: ADOT Public Information Office
news@azdot.gov -or- 1.800.949.8057

Only a few days remain to give input on I-11 corridor alternatives *June 2 marks comment deadline for latest study phase of proposed Nogales-to-Wickenburg corridor*

PHOENIX – Six public meetings. Four agency meetings. More than 600 people in attendance. Hundreds of comments on a 280-mile-long corridor.

The Arizona Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration are wrapping up a busy month seeking public input for the Interstate 11 environmental study between Nogales and Wickenburg. All comments are due by June 2 to be entered into the official public record and included in the final Alternatives Selection Report, which will recommend a reasonable range of corridor alternatives.

To make it easy for those who missed a meeting and still want to comment, all materials are available at i11study.com/Arizona, including an online mapping and comment tool, the fact sheet, and the public meeting presentation and display boards. Comments can be entered via the study website and can also be submitted by email, voicemail and postal mail by June 2 as follows:

- Email: I-11ADOTStudy@hdrinc.com
- Toll-free bilingual telephone information line: 1-844-544-8049
- Mail:
Interstate 11 Tier 1 EIS Study Team
c/o ADOT Communications
1655 W. Jackson St., Mail Drop 126F
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Members of the public and agencies can also review and comment on the recently published *Alternatives Selection Report: Evaluation Methodology and Criteria Report*, located on the documents page of the study website. The report outlines the approach for developing and screening corridor alternatives for Interstate 11 as work continues on the Alternatives Selection Report.

During the first year of this three-year study that formally began in May 2016, ADOT evaluated a wide range of corridor alternatives – or possible routes – in order to narrow the choices to the recommended range of reasonable alternatives to be evaluated further as part of the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement.

A Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement will evaluate the recommended range of reasonable corridor alternatives, including a no-build alternative. The Final Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement, which would

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include a preferred corridor alternative or the no-build option, and the Federal Highway Administration's Record of Decision are expected in 2019.

I-11 is envisioned as a multimodal, high-capacity transportation corridor connecting Arizona with regional and international markets while opening up new opportunities for mobility, trade, commerce, job growth and economic competitiveness. While the planning phase for this high-priority corridor is well underway, funding for further studies, design and construction has yet to be identified.

The recommended I-11 corridor would likely follow US 93 from the Hoover Dam bypass bridge south to Wickenburg. The 280-mile corridor that is the focus of the current environmental study begins in Wickenburg and runs west of the Phoenix metropolitan area, south to the Tucson area and then to Nogales.

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