



**I-11 DRAFT TIER 1
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND
PRELIMINARY SECTION 4(f) EVALUATION**
Nogales to Wickenburg

Public Hearing Participant Guide

April/May 2019

This document has been updated with new comment end date: July 8, 2019.

i11study.com/Arizona

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如需中文文件请致电 1-844-544-8049.

WELCOME

Welcome and thank you for participating in the public comment process for the I-11 Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement and Preliminary Section 4(f) Analysis (Draft Tier 1 EIS).

At today's public hearing, a variety of study information is provided, including full copies of the Draft Tier 1 EIS that you can view as well as an overview video summarizing the Draft Tier 1 EIS, along with printed materials and maps. In addition, technical staff is available to answer your questions and provide information about this study and its recommendations.

During the public review and comment period, you have a variety of opportunities to submit comments and questions on the Draft Tier 1 EIS, all described in this booklet. All comment methods are considered equal. It's important to note that however you choose to submit your comments – whether online, via email, through the phone line, in writing, verbally to a court reporter, or as a speaker – your comments will be considered, addressed, and answered in the next document, the Final Tier 1 EIS.

Today's public hearing is one of six that are being conducted in the study area to present the Draft Tier 1 EIS and provide opportunities for you to comment on the study. Each hearing presents the same study information and comment opportunities. The remainder of this booklet provides information about how this public hearing event is set up. I hope it will be helpful. If you need any additional information, just look around; many staff members are on hand to help.

Your input is very important and we hope you will take advantage of opportunities to comment on the Draft Tier 1 EIS presented at today's public hearing.

Again, thank you for attending today.



Jay Van Echo

Project Manager



ACRONYMS AND KEY WORDS

The following are acronyms and key words used in this guide and throughout the meeting materials.

Acronyms

ADOT	Arizona Department of Transportation
Draft Tier 1 DEIS	Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement and Preliminary Section 4(f) Evaluation
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
Final Tier 1 EIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
I-11, I-10	Interstate 11, Interstate 10, etc.
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
ROD	Record of Decision
SR	State Route

Key Words

Facility	A road, such as a freeway.
Corridor	A 2,000-foot wide strip within which a potential facility alignment could be located.
Build Corridor Alternative	Designates the corridor alternatives in the Draft Tier 1 EIS (Purple, Green, and Orange Alternatives) that would implement I-11.
No-Build Corridor Alternative	Designates the do-nothing option and serves as the baseline against which all Build options are compared.
Recommended Corridor Alternative	The Draft Tier 1 EIS corridor alternative proposed to move forward in the study process.
Preferred Corridor Alternative	The Final Tier 1 EIS corridor alternative proposed to move forward in the study process.
Selected Corridor Alternative	The corridor alternative selected and described in the Record of Decision.
Record of Decision	The final step for agencies in the EIS process, this document states what the decision is.
Mitigation	An action taken to reduce or eliminate an adverse impact from construction, operation or maintenance of a potential facility.

STUDY OVERVIEW

The **I-11 Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement and Preliminary Section 4(f) Evaluation** (Draft Tier 1 EIS) builds upon a previous study completed in 2014: the **I-11 and Intermountain West Corridor Study**. That study identified the I-11 Corridor as a critical transportation facility that would diversify, support, and connect the economies of Arizona and Nevada.

In December 2015, Congress approved the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act, which formally designates I-11 as an interstate freeway throughout Arizona.

The I-11 Tier 1 EIS process, conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) allows the study to move forward before funding is established for future project development. It lays the groundwork for where the corridor would be located, analyzes and evaluates possible corridor alternatives, and documents the analysis.

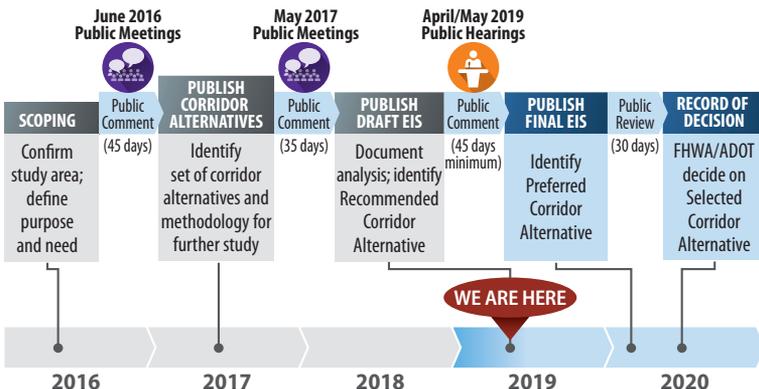
The Tier 1 EIS process will select either:

- (1) a 2,000-foot-wide Build Corridor Alternative; or
- (2) the No-Build (or do-nothing) Alternative.

It’s important to understand that this Tier 1 EIS process is evaluating potential corridors, NOT specific alignments within those corridors.

If FHWA and ADOT select a Build Alternative, it would be implemented in segments as funding becomes available. Each segment would undergo a Tier 2 environmental study. Tier 2 is a deeper analysis that would produce detailed design, identify property impacts, and define more specific and detailed mitigation measures.

I-11 Tier 1 EIS Process



Draft Tier 1 EIS Recommended Corridor Alternative



*see page 11 for addresses

PUBLIC COMMENT OPTIONS

The comment period is open until **July 8, 2019** and you can submit comments:

At today's meeting:

- Submit verbal comments via a court reporter.
- Submit written comments via a comment form (hard copy or online).
- Provide verbal statements for up to 3 minutes to a panel of study team members (documented by a court reporter).

Anytime during the public comment period:

-  Online: i11study.com/Arizona
-  Email: I-11ADOTStudy@hdrinc.com
-  Phone: **1.844.544.8049 (bilingüe)**
-  Mail: **I-11 Tier 1 EIS Study Team
c/o ADOT Communications
1655 W. Jackson St.
Mail Drop 126F
Phoenix, AZ 85007**

It is helpful to ADOT and FHWA to receive comments on:

- Any alternative or mitigation measure you support or oppose and why.
- Information you believe is incomplete or incorrect.

When submitting comments, please be as specific as possible and provide details on your concerns and recommendations.

ADOT and FHWA will consider all comments and questions in preparing the Final Tier 1 EIS, which will include responses to all comments, final conclusions on potential impacts, and ADOT's and FHWA's decision on the Preferred Alternative (either a Build Corridor Alternative or the No-Build Alternative).

Comments due July 8, 2019

THE PUBLIC HEARING

The main purpose of the public hearing is to:

- Present the findings of the Draft Tier 1 EIS.
- Obtain comments on the Draft Tier 1 EIS.

The public hearings will take place at the locations and times listed below. The same information will be provided at each public hearing.



Monday, 4/29/19 | 5–8 p.m.
Palo Verde Energy Education Center
 600 N. Airport Road
 Buckeye



Tuesday, 4/30/19 | 4–7 p.m.
Wickenburg Community Center
 160 N. Valentine Street
 Wickenburg



Wednesday, 5/1/19 | 5–8 p.m.
Holiday Inn
 777 N. Pinal Avenue
 Casa Grande



Tuesday, 5/7/19 | 4–7 p.m.
Quality Hotel Americana
 639 N. Grand Avenue
 Nogales



Wednesday, 5/8/19 | 3–8 p.m.
Tucson Convention Center Ballrooms/Lobby
 260 S. Church Avenue
 Tucson



Saturday 5/11/19 | 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
Marana High School Cafeteria
 12000 W. Emigh Road
 Marana

Overview of the Public Hearing

The public hearing is organized into three main areas, each running continuously throughout the duration of the public hearing and described in more detail below.

- **Area 1: Overview Video**
- **Area 2: Open House**
- **Area 3: Public Statements**

Area 1: Overview Video

- You are encouraged to start here.
- Watch the video to learn about the study and the Draft Tier 1 EIS process and results. This video is played continuously throughout the public hearing.

Area 2: Open House

- View displays summarizing important elements of the Draft Tier 1 EIS.
- View maps showing the Recommended Corridor Alternative.
- Speak with a study team representative.
- Submit a verbal comment to a court reporter.
- Complete a comment form.
- Submit a comment online.
- View a copy of the Draft Tier 1 EIS.

Area 3: Public Statements

- Provide verbal comments for up to 3 minutes (*speakers must register at the sign-in table*) to a panel of study team members (documented by a court reporter).
- Listen to verbal comments.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN



Attendee Registration

This is not mandatory; the registration information helps the study team track attendance and also gives you an opportunity to add your name to the study distribution list for future notices.



Speaker Registration

If you would like to provide verbal comment for up to 3 minutes to a panel of study team members and a court reporter, you must REGISTER to speak. You can register at the sign-in table. If you pre-registered (*TUCSON and MARANA meetings only*) before today's public hearing, please check in at the sign-in table to confirm your spot.



Interpretation Services – Interpretación de Español Disponible

Please see a study team member if you need Spanish interpretation assistance.

Por favor vea a los miembros del equipo del estudio si necesita ayuda de interpretación en español.

GENERAL GROUND RULES

Mutual respect, courtesy, and patience are the hearing's guiding principles.

So that everyone feels welcome, comfortable, and has the opportunity to speak, we ask that you follow the ground rules listed below.



Meeting Venue

- Independent printed materials, signs, or banners are not allowed in the meeting venue.



Video Area

- Please remain quiet and silence cell phones.
- Please leave the area for side discussions.



Open House Area

- Please refrain from interrupting conversations between study team members and meeting attendees.



Public Statement Area

- Please remain quiet and silence cell phones while in the audience.
- Please do not interrupt a speaker.
- Please leave the area for side discussions.
- Keep verbal comments to within the allotted 3 minutes to provide equal opportunity and time for all to speak and be heard.

PUBLIC STATEMENT AREA GUIDELINES

General guidelines for speaker registration and participation are listed below. Please note that the panel of study team members is there to listen, but will not respond to questions or comments. Study discussions or questions and answers are accommodated in the open house area of the meeting. The moderator has the authority to deviate from these procedures, if needed.

- 1. Register** – All speakers are required to register by signing up at the Speaker Registration table. Speaker registration is available until the designated closing time for the hearing. *For Tucson and Marana meetings only:* pre-registration is available in advance of the hearing online at <https://tinyurl.com/i11study> (you can select a specific time) or by calling 1.844.544.8049.
- 2. Order of speakers** – Speakers will be called forward based on the order in which they sign up.
- 3. Time limit for verbal comments** – In order to allow as many to be heard as possible and provide equal opportunity, each speaker will be allotted a maximum of 3 minutes.
- 4. Submit written comments** – An individual or group representative who speaks may also submit more detailed written comments for the hearing record. All comments – regardless of how submitted – will have equal weight.
- 5. Cannot yield time** – To allow equal opportunity for all and to accommodate the number of people who may wish to speak, yielding time to another person will not be allowed.
- 6. Format** – The public statement area is to receive 3-minute verbal comments; study discussions or questions and answers are accommodated in the open house area of the meeting.
- 7. No demonstrations** – Demonstrations are not allowed at the public hearing.
- 8. Hearing schedule** – All speakers registered to speak by the scheduled close of the hearing will have the opportunity to speak. Registration will not be allowed past the closing time of the hearing.

ONLINE PUBLIC HEARING MATERIALS

All the materials at the public hearing (overview video, display boards, corridor maps, and comment form) are available online at i11study.com/Arizona.

FAQ'S

Where can I view the Draft Tier 1 EIS?

During this comment period, starting April 5, 2019 and ending on July 8, 2019, the document is available on the study website at i11study.com/Arizona, at the public hearings, and at the following public locations during regular business hours:

- **Wickenburg** – Wickenburg Town Hall, 155 N. Tegner Street, Ste. A
- **Wickenburg** – Wickenburg Public Library, 164 E. Apache Street
- **Buckeye** – Buckeye Public Library/Coyote Branch, 21699 W. Yuma Road, Ste. 116
- **Buckeye** – Buckeye Public Library/Downtown Branch, 310 N. 6th Street
- **Buckeye** – Buckeye City Hall, 530 E. Monroe Avenue
- **Rainbow Valley** – Buckeye Fire District Station 326, 19937 W. Arlington Road
- **Surprise** – Northwest Regional Library, 16089 N. Bullard Avenue
- **Phoenix** – Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N. Central Avenue
- **Goodyear** – Goodyear Library, 14455 W. Van Buren Street, C-101
- **Hidden Valley/Maricopa** – Thunderbird Fire Station, 12356 N. Ralston Road
- **Maricopa** – Maricopa Public Library (Pinal County Library District), 41600 W. Smith-Enke Road, Bldg. 10
- **Casa Grande** – Main Library, 449 N. Drylake Street
- **Gila Bend** – Gila Bend Library, 202 N. Euclid Avenue
- **Eloy** – Eloy Santa Cruz Library, 1000 N. Main Street
- **Marana** – Picture Rocks Fire District, Station 121, 7341 N. Sandario Road
- **Marana** – Town of Marana Municipal Complex, 11555 W. Civic Center Drive
- **Tucson** – Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center, 1660 W. Ruthrauff Road
- **Tucson** – Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone Avenue
- **Tucson** – Mission Public Library, 3770 S. Mission Road
- **Green Valley** – Joyner-Green Valley Library, 601 N. La Cañada Drive
- **Sahuarita** – Sahuarita Library, 725 W. Via Rancho Sahuarita
- **Nogales** – Nogales-Rochlin Library, 518 N. Grand Avenue

What happens after the Draft Tier 1 EIS comment period ends?

After July 8, 2019 (the end of the Draft Tier 1 EIS comment period), the study team will review and address all comments and questions received, regardless of how they are submitted, in the Final Tier 1 EIS document.

The Final Tier 1 EIS will identify a Preferred Corridor Alternative (either a Build Corridor Alternative or the No-Build Alternative). When the Final Tier 1 EIS is complete, it will be released for a minimum 30-day public review period. Then, FHWA will issue a Record of Decision that identifies a Selected Alternative (either a Build Corridor Alternative or the No-Build Alternative).

If a Build Corridor Alternative is selected, when will a specific route for I-11 be identified?

It's important to note that if a Build Corridor Alternative is identified as the Selected Alternative, the specific location of the highway (approximately 400 feet wide) within that 2,000-foot corridor will be identified through subsequent Tier 2 studies on the specific alignment. The Tier 2 studies would be conducted when funding is available.

Who makes the final decision on what alternative is selected?

The final decision on the Selected Alternative is a cooperative effort involving ADOT and FHWA. ADOT serves as the agency responsible for implementation of the plan, with FHWA providing the federal oversight. FHWA is the lead federal agency responsible for implementing the requirements of NEPA, the governing federal law, and is responsible for the ultimate decision regarding the proposed action.

How is public input used?

Public comments are a vital component in the decision-making process. Public comment has been solicited from project inception and through key milestones in the Tier 1 EIS process. The interests and needs of the public, along with all other social, economic, and environmental issues and impacts, must be fully analyzed and included in the Draft and Final Tier 1 EIS and the ROD. Comments made during development of the Draft Tier 1 EIS have been used to adjust alternatives, explore new questions, or make changes—all within the scope of NEPA. Public comments received on the Draft Tier 1 EIS will be reviewed and responded to in the Final Tier 1 EIS document.

ADOT



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