

March 8, 2005

Dear David:

We appreciate your assistance in setting up our recent rural consultation session in Mohave County, and for getting the word out to elected officials in the region. The rapport you have built with them goes a long way toward creating the kind of cooperation this process requires. The support and interest shown by those in attendance was also much appreciated.

This consultation session was designed to give local elected officials an opportunity to provide input and gather information related to the Five-Year Construction Program. We've taken a look at the questions that were raised at the meeting in Kingman, and have some information that we hope you can distribute to all elected officials in Mohave County.

Arnold Burnham, ADOT Programming Manager, presented the Proposed FY 2006 – 2010 Tentative Statewide Highway Construction Program. The complete list is attached. The proposed projects within Mohave County are located on US 93. Also attached are excerpts from Arnold's presentation that discuss changes to subprograms.

A question was asked about what was the likelihood of a successful scoping project being selected to move forward. ADOT staff explained that project selection was a matter of funding availability. The reauthorization of the federal transportation bill would bring more funding to projects. It was also mentioned that the State's MoveAZ Transportation Plan prioritizes projects. ADOT staff indicated that the State Transportation Board looks favorably on joint efforts between a local entity and ADOT.

A question was raised about the SR 95 re-alignment study. ADOT staff indicated that this project needs a DCR and funding. It was mentioned that Bullhead City is interested in a second bridge. ADOT staff explained that projects must first be included in the TIP and funded, before they can be included in the Arizona State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The State Transportation Board and FHWA approve the STIP.

A question was asked about the status of the State budget. Some of those in attendance oppose the channeling of Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) to the Department of Public Safety. The distribution of HURF to the DPS Highway Patrol is a policy decision contained in the State Constitution (Article 14, Section 9). Changes to this law may occur through representatives to the legislature.

John Pein, ADOT Statewide Planning Manager, discussed the State Transportation Plan, MoveAZ. Legislation calls for the plan to be updated every 5 years. All state highways will be studied over the next five years in a series of corridor and route studies. Cities and counties will have the opportunity to provide input into these studies.

Dave, you have been a helpful partner in the consultation process. We hope this information will be helpful to the elected officials of Mohave County.

Sincerely,

John Pein
State and Regional Planning Manager

Carol Slaker
Senior Transportation Planner

cc:

Arnold Burnham, ADOT Priority Programming Manager
Tom Spear, Kingman City Council
Dennis E. Roberts, Community Development Director, Kingman
Kay Lyons, Kingman City Council
Dave French, Kingman City Council
Jim Baker, Kingman City Council
Pete Byers, Mohave County Supervisor
Shad Springer, Bullhead City Engineering Division Mgr.
Paul McCormick, Canamex Commissioner, Vice-Chair County Hwy Com
Raymond Stadler, Mohave County Public Works Engineering Mgr
Dave Barber, Deputy Director of WACOG
Jeff Pulfer, Bullhead City
Mike Kondelis, ADOT Maintenance Engineer
Sam Elters, District Engineer, ADOT/Kingman District