



"SPECIAL" EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

DATE:	July 5, 2016	TIME:	10:00 AM to 10:30 AM
PLACE:	Conference Call - To join the conference, call 520-421-8673, hit # key to join		
	Irene's Cell 520-705-5143		
Executive Board Members			
Chairman	Jon Thompson, Mayor Coolidge	Member	Bob Jackson, Mayor Casa Grande
Vice Chair	Joel Belloc, Mayor Eloy	Member	Steve Stratton, ADOT District 4 Rep
Sec/Tres	Steve Miller, Pinal County Supervisor		
Shaded items are action items: <i>Action may be taken on any item on the agenda, or items brought up at the meeting.</i>			
ITEM	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER	PAGE
1	Call to order and Introductions	Mayor Thompson	
2	Approval of Resolution 2016-01 which declares support of the preparation of the Interstate 11 Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Study	Irene Higgs	1 - 10
3	Next Meeting Dates: • July 12, 2016 (Coolidge)	Mayor Thompson	
4	Adjourn	Mayor Thompson	



MEMO TO: SCMPO EXECUTIVE BOARD

FROM: Irene Higgs, SCMPO Executive Director

DATE: July 5, 2016

SUBJECT: Approval of Resolution 2016-01 which declares support of the preparation of the Interstate 11 Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Study

In 2012, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) embarked on a two year feasibility study to assess the need for another interstate route connecting Mexico and the Southwest portion of the United States. In 2014, the study was completed, which demonstrated the need for such a transportation corridor, which now has prompted the next step, which is the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The EIS will be completed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and will consider possible interstate routes between Nogales and Wickenburg, as well as a no-build alternative. ADOT is now in the scoping phase of the project, with comments due by July 8, 2016. The entire process is expected to be complete in three years. During the process, public information meetings will be held when corridor alternatives are identified and then will be followed by public hearings when the Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) is prepared and available for public review. The DEIS will then transition to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) portion of the study and ultimately result in a Record of Decision (ROD), which records the EPA's decisions concerning the proposed action.

This new limited access roadway will provide additional freeway capacity for Interstate 10, expedite freight movement between originations and destinations, foster local economic development along its corridor and proximate area, and increase vehicular connectivity among communities in Pinal County.

RECOMMENDATION:

Sun Corridor MPO Staff recommends approval of Resolution 2016-01 which declares supports of the preparation of the Interstate 11 Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Study to promote freight movement, link communities and enhance job growth in Pinal County.

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-01

RESOLUTION OF THE SUN CORRIDOR METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S INTERSTATE 11 CORRIDOR TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY.

WHEREAS, in November 2014, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), Nevada Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Maricopa Association of Governments, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada, and other key stakeholders completed an initial two-year feasibility study known as the Interstate 11 (I-11) and Intermountain West Corridor Study (IWCS); and,

WHEREAS, upon completion of the IWCS, ADOT, FHWA, and the partnering regional planning agencies commenced with a three-year environmental study to select a corridor alternative for I-11 between Nogales and Wickenburg; and,

WHEREAS, the I-11 corridor study area is 280 miles long, varies in width from approximately 5 to 50 miles and traverses the counties of Maricopa, Pinal, Pima and Santa Cruz; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Sun Corridor MPO and all the cities, towns, and Indian communities and unincorporated areas within Pinal County to promote the I-11 planning process that encompasses the identified Study Area Corridor; and,

WHEREAS, Sun Corridor MPO declares its support of the West Pinal Freeway along the route identified in the Pinal Regional Transportation Plan approved by the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority May 11, 2016 as a high capacity transportation route.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Sun Corridor MPO declares its support of the West Pinal Freeway along the route identified in the Pinal Regional Transportation Plan approved by the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority May 11, 2016 as a high capacity route as it promotes freight movement, links communities, and strengthens economic development and job growth county-wide.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution is effective upon approval and execution of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2016, by the SUN
CORRIDOR METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION.

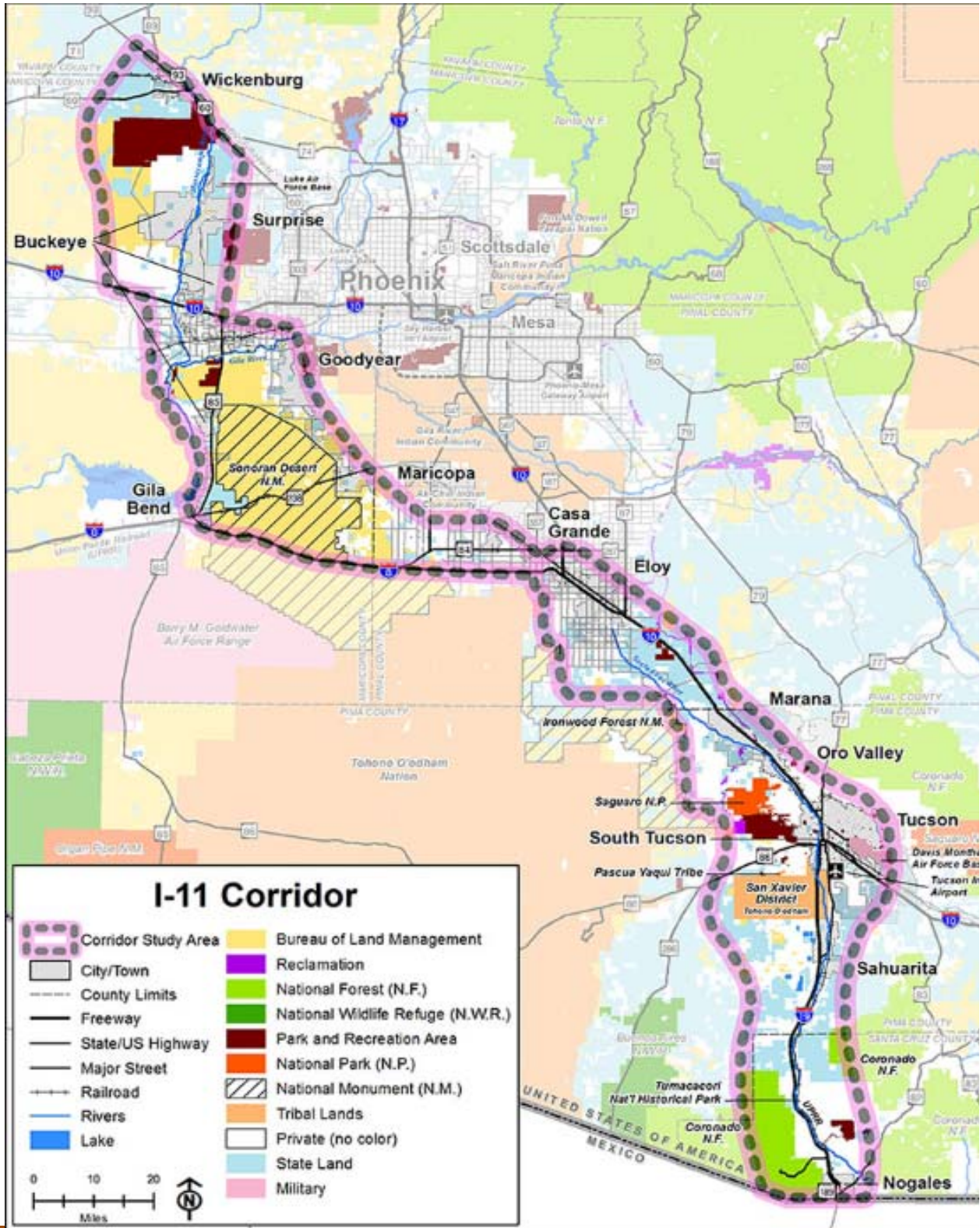
Jon Thompson, Chair
Sun Corridor MPO Executive Board
Mayor, City of Coolidge

ATTEST:

Irene Higgs
Sun Corridor MPO Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Denis Fitzgibbons
Sun Corridor MPO Attorney





Committee Action Requested: Information Only Action Requested Below

A motion to approve Resolution 2016-01 which declares support of the preparation of the Interstate 11 Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Study and submit to ADOT.