



# Loop 303

US 60 (Grand Avenue) to  
Happy Valley Parkway

Federal Aid. No. NH-303-B (AXX)

ADOT Project No. 303 MA 119 H6896 01L



Agency Scoping Meeting: April 30, 2009  
Public Scoping Meetings: May 5 & 6, 2009



Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway  
Welcome!



## Goals for today's Scoping Meeting:

- Provide an overview of the study
  - Background
  - Description and area
  - Purpose and need
  - Engineering elements
  - Environmental elements
  - Process/schedule
- Solicit agency/public input to assist in the identification of issues and concerns to be addressed during the study





## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway How to Submit Input



Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- Fill out a blue comment form and return to study team representative
- Submit via e-mail to:  
[projectupdate@lewin-associates.com](mailto:projectupdate@lewin-associates.com)
- Submit via fax to: 480.890.0013
- Via mail to: Brock J. Barnhart

c/o NW Valley Community Outreach Team  
1146 N. Mesa Drive, #102-298  
Mesa, AZ 85201



## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Project Partners





## Loop 303 Development

- 1980s: Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) originally included Loop 303 in region's transportation plan
- 1985: Loop 303 added to State Highway System (SHS)
- 1990s: Dropped from SHS due to lack of funding; Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) assumed responsibility
- 2002: MCDOT completed construction of improvements between Clearview and Mountain View boulevards
- 2003: MAG included Loop 303 improvements in new \$15.8 billion Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- 2004: MCDOT completed construction of Loop 303 bridge over US 60/Grand Avenue



## Loop 303 Development

- 2004: Valley voters approved Proposition 400, providing funding to implement plan
- 2006: Loop 303 transferred back into SHS; ADOT assumed responsibility for construction of Loop 303 improvements included in RTP
- 02/09: ADOT began construction of Loop 303 improvements, Happy Valley Parkway to Lake Pleasant Parkway
- 03/09: ADOT received approval from Federal Highway Administration to design and construct Loop 303 improvements from I-10 to US 60
- 04/09: ADOT began scoping process for Loop 303 improvements between US 60 and Happy Valley Parkway







## Reason for RTP Development

### Why was a Regional Transportation Plan needed?

- To efficiently pool and prioritize resources
- To reach consensus among all communities and agencies on a balanced program
- To meet increasing needs of the community:
  - Valley population projected to increase from 3.7 million to approximately 6 million by 2025



## MAG's Role

### Create the plan:

- Develop Regional Transportation Plan and conduct regional transportation planning
- Set priorities for scheduling and funding
- Approve accelerations, amendments and cost changes to RTP
- Ensure conformity with federal air quality standards





## ADOT's Role

### Deliver the plan:

- Implement RTP freeway component
- Conduct studies to identify/evaluate alternatives
- Acquire right of way
- Design and construct freeways
- Maintain state roads and freeways
- Approve Regional Freeway enhancements



## FHWA's Role

### Oversight:

- Serve as lead federal agency
- Participate in study process
- Provide document review and approval
- Provide funding, where appropriate





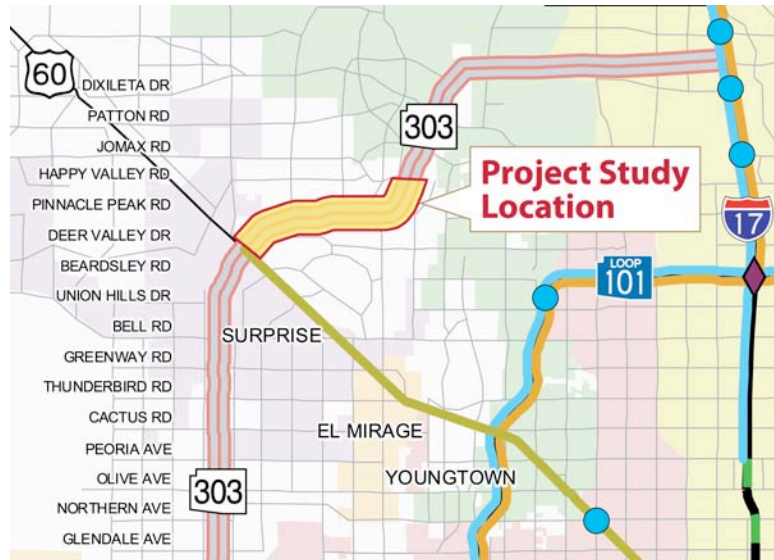
## Local Governments' Role

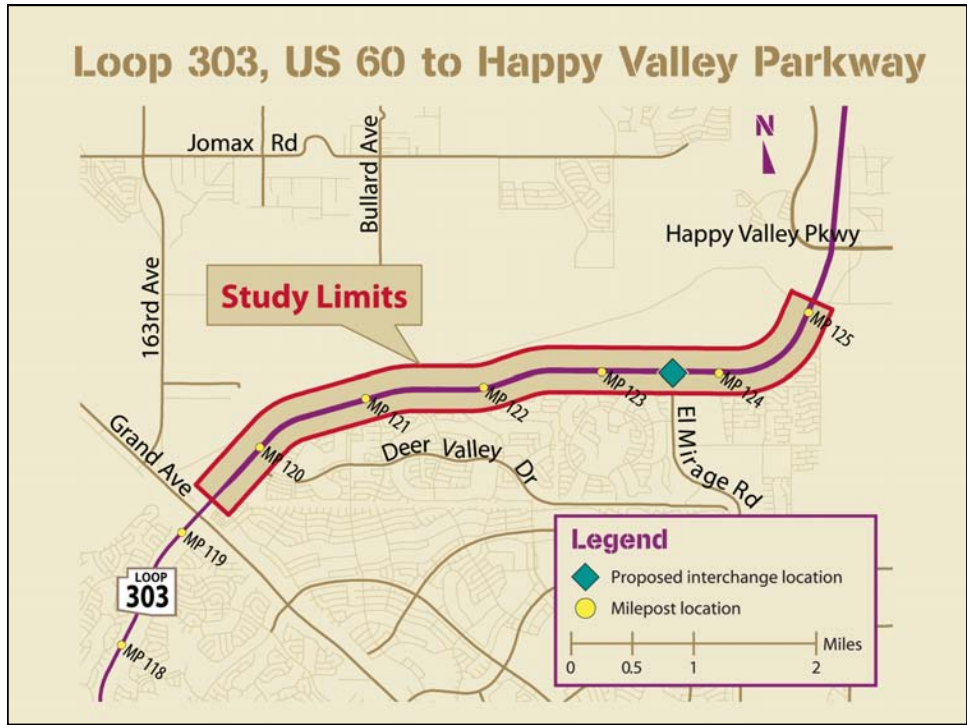
### Manage local transportation system:

- Maintain existing county or city roads
- Plan, design and construct new county or city roads and improvements
- County Board of Supervisors or City Councils:
  - Represent community in MAG planning, programming and prioritizing discussions
  - Represent respective community in approaching ADOT regarding enhancements



## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Study Area





## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Purpose and Need



### Purpose and need for improvements:

- Provide a transportation corridor that responds to regional transportation needs
- Accommodate local and regional development and transportation plans
- Complete an important link in the Regional Freeway System
- Minimize anticipated congestion levels
  - Reduce motorists' travel time and highway user costs
  - Improve traffic safety and air quality





## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Focus of Study

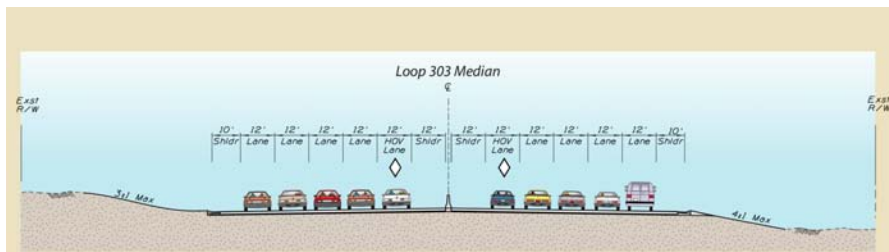


### The study will evaluate:

- Possible improvements to upgrade the existing roadway to a freeway
  - Ultimate—four lanes plus HOV each direction
    - RTP provides funding for initial improvement to three lanes each direction
- Possible construction of a traffic interchange at El Mirage Road
- No build condition



## Possible Typical Traffic Lane Configurations

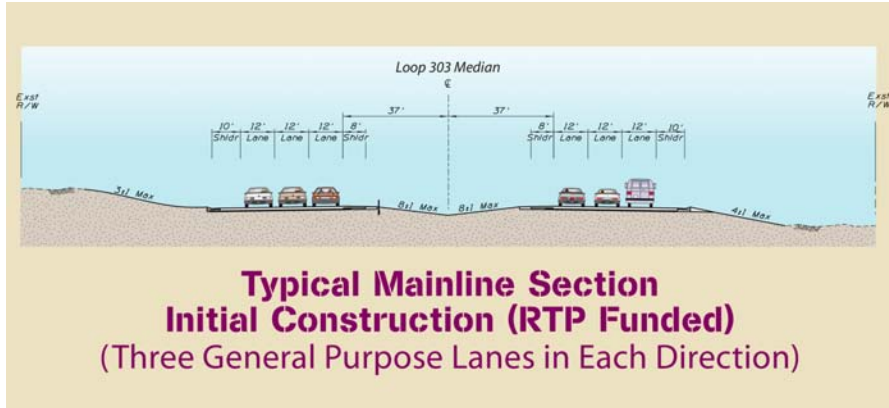


**Typical Mainline Section  
Ultimate for Environmental Clearance**  
(Four General Purpose Lanes Plus One HOV Lane in Each Direction)





## Possible Typical Traffic Lane Configurations



## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Engineering Elements



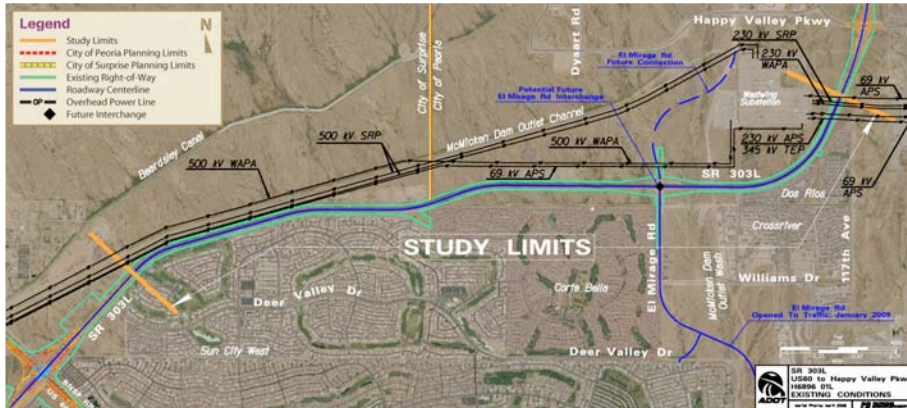
The engineering evaluation will consider:

- Existing roadway
- Existing utilities
- Right of way
- Traffic
- Drainage
- Costs
- Implementation plan





## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Existing Conditions



## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Environmental Elements



The environmental evaluation will consider potential impacts in these areas:

- Land use
- Water resources
- Floodplains
- Biological resources
- Visual resources
- Air quality
- Noise
- Hazardous materials
- Social conditions
- Environmental justice
- Economic conditions
- Section 4(f)\* and Section 6(f) resources\*\*
- Cultural
- Utilities
- Materials sources and waste materials
- Secondary impacts
- Cumulative impacts

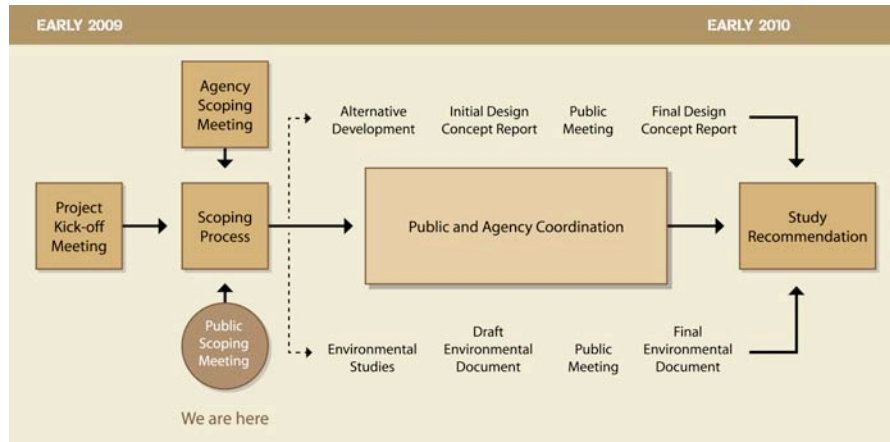
\*e.g., Publicly owned parks, recreational areas, refuges, historic sites

\*\*Recreation properties acquired by Land and Water Conservation Fund Act grant





## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Study Process and Schedule



## Loop 303, US 60 to Happy Valley Parkway Community Input



Questions and/or comments?





## For More Information about Loop 303



Visit ADOT Web Site:

- [www.ValleyFreeways.com](http://www.ValleyFreeways.com)

Contact us by phone or e-mail:

- Brock Barnhart, ADOT Community Relations:  
602.712.8147 or [Bbarnhart@azdot.gov](mailto:Bbarnhart@azdot.gov)
- ADOT NW Valley Community Outreach Team:  
480.890.3055 (para Español 480.529.3647) or  
[projectupdate@lewin-associates.com](mailto:projectupdate@lewin-associates.com)

