



**Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community
2010 Long Range Transportation
Planning Study**

**Second Round Community Outreach
Summary Report**

Prepared for:
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Prepared by:
HDR Engineering, Inc. and PSA, Inc.

June 2010

Executive Summary

Background

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community 2010 Long Range Transportation Planning Study is being funded by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Multimodal Planning Division's Planning Assistance for Rural Areas (PARA) program. The PARA program is funded through the Federal Highway Administration's State Planning and Research program to non-metropolitan communities for the purpose of conducting transportation planning studies. PARA funds may be applied to address a broad range of planning issues related to road and non-motorized transportation modes.

Community Outreach

The first round of Community Outreach occurred from July to November, 2009 and focused on issue identification and data collection. As part of this initial effort, interviews were conducted with 18 stakeholders, presentation at elders' breakfasts occurred, and two Community Workshops held.

The second round of Community outreach was intended to provide Community members with an overview of the SRPMIC Transportation Planning Study, update them on the progress made to date, solicit input regarding the transportation improvement recommendations, and understand any issues or concerns that should be addressed in the final Study recommendations. Second round Community outreach included:

- Elders' Breakfasts – April 7th and May 5th
- SRPMIC Earth Day Celebration – April 24th
- Community Workshops – May 17th and May 24th
- Tribal Council Presentation – May 12th and June 16th

The meeting summary notes from the above listed outreach meetings are included in the Appendix. The Project Team had a project booth at the SRPMIC Earth Day event to collect public input and distribute flyers.

As was done during the first round of outreach, the Community Workshops were extensively promoted within the Community in the following ways:

- Water Bill Mailer – 1,600 copies distributed; Community members received their water bills 7 to 10 days prior to the workshops
- Two Advertisements in the Community Newspaper – newspaper delivery dates April 15th and May 6th
- Announcement on SRPMIC digital signage and marquee – May 3rd
- Flyers posted to the 16 Community bulletin boards – May 3rd
- 160 flyers distributed with the home delivered meals to seniors – May 3rd

- Announcements of the Community Workshops posted to the SRPMIC intranet
- Announcement at the two Elders' Breakfasts – April 7 and May 5
- Announcement of the Community Workshops at the Tribal Council meeting – May 12th

Comments on Recommendations

Overall, it was clear that individuals were very pleased to be asked to participate in the Long Range Transportation Planning Study and thought it was an important planning effort that the Community was embarking upon.

The following summarizes the comments related to the transportation recommendations.

Road Improvements There was general support for the roadway improvements suggested in the draft plan. There was some concern expressed about the widening of 92nd Street being too large of a road east of Loop 101. Others roadway improvements questioned were the widening of SR 87 and Gilbert Road.

Bridges Some Community members commented that they felt a bridge over the Arizona Canal or a bridge on Dobson across the Salt River was not needed.

Safety The priorities for safety improvements were very important to Community members. Safety improvements related to pedestrian facilities for school children and reducing speeds throughout the Community were supported. Center and Country Club on Osborn Road as well as Sycamore to Palm Lane were areas that were recommended for speed limit enforcement.

Public Transit Increasing Community members' access to public transit was viewed positively. The need to better advertise schedules, routes and times of operation were mentioned as important to address. It was mentioned that transit service should be provided every day of the week to serve Community members needing to get to medical services such as dialysis.

APPENDIX

Salt River and Lehi Elders' Breakfasts

Date: April 7, 2010 (Salt River Elders); May 5, 2010 (Lehi Elders)

Locations: Lehi Community Building, 1231 E. Oak Street
Salt River Community Building, 1880 N. Longmore Road

Handouts: Study Recommendations Handout

Project Team: Jennifer Jack, SRPMIC-ECS Project Manager (4/7 & 5/5)
Misty Dayzie, ADOT Project Manager (4/7 & 5/5)
Esther Moyah, SRPMIC (4/7 & 5/5)
Julian Avila, ADOT CCP (5/5)
Michael Gorton, HDR (5/5)
Michael LaBianca, HDR (5/5)
Peggy Fiandaca, Partners for Strategic Action, Inc. (5/5)

The Project Team was invited to distribute information at the Salt River Elders' Breakfast on April 7th and make a brief announcement regarding upcoming public workshops associated with the SRPMIC Transportation Planning Study. Additionally, at the regular monthly Elders' breakfast in Lehi on May 5th, the Project Team made a presentation and facilitated a discussion with Elders attending the breakfast. This was the second round of presentations made at the Elders' breakfasts during the Study.

The purpose of the full study presentation at the Lehi Breakfast was to provide attendees an overview of the SRPMIC Transportation Planning Study, update them on the progress made to date, solicit input regarding the transportation recommendations, and understand any issues or concerns that should be addressed during the upcoming Community Workshops and final Study recommendations.

Lehi Elders' Breakfast Presentation

Jennifer Jack, SRPMIC thanked everyone for giving the Team an opportunity to provide an overview of the Long Range Transportation Planning Study and the recommendations. She also introduced the Study Team members.

Michael Gorton with HDR (Transportation Consultant Project Manger) used PowerPoint slides to discuss the Study and transportation recommendations. Michael explained that the Study addresses roadway safety issues, walking and bicycle routes, cut-through traffic concerns and public transportation for Community members to get to the doctor, work or shopping. All of these issues impact the Community's quality of life. Michael explained the Study's outcome is a long-range plan for transportation improvements within SRPMIC. He encouraged their involvement at one of two upcoming Community

Workshops (May 17 – Lehi and May 24 – Salt River). The workshops will have the same format and presentation on two different evenings at two different locations.

May 17, 2010; 5:30 – 7:30 PM
Lehi Community Center

May 24, 2010; 5:30 – 7:30 PM
SRPMIC Community Building

Michael explained that the meetings would include a brief presentation about the Study followed by questions and discussions. Tribal staff, ADOT representatives and planning consultants will be present to answer questions about the Study.

The Project Team then facilitated a discussion of questions, issues, and ideas that participants expressed:

- Comment – Enforce the speed limit on Center and Country Club on Osborn Road
- Question - No improvements in Lehi shown? Response - McDowell Road construction will begin this summer and Oak Street is currently in the predesign stage and will include roadway reconstruction and new sidewalks.
- Speeding is an issue on Sycamore to Palm Lane; need to put the speed bumps back to calm the traffic in the area; it is a graded road but a popular road to get from Mesa
- Traffic is heavy in the AM and PM on Center and Thomas; need to have speed bumps with a warning that speed bumps are ahead; dangerous one-way; curves; and dead end all cause this area to be dangerous

Peggy thanked them for their ideas and encouraged their participation at the upcoming Community Workshops. If they had additional ideas or comments, they could write them on the Comment Cards on each of the tables and give them to Misty Dayzie or Jennifer Jack.

Comment Cards

Following are comments received at the Elders' Breakfast written on Comment Cards.

- Why don't we have toll roads?
- Don't widen 87 or Gilbert Road
- Don't need Dobson Bridge over the Salt River
- Don't want 92nd/Dobson Road improved
- Don't need bridge over Arizona Canal. Community members can get to the casino on the 101
- Do not want more land going to ADOT/MCDOT for roads
- Improvements need to be internal to benefit and preserve the Community
- Need to follow up on the waterline in McDowell – Mesa or SRPMIC water
- Palm Lane – signage to slow cars because children are at play
- Need traffic calming at Center & Thomas
- Explore the possibility of speed bumps in residential areas; too much fast traveling by Community and non-Community members
- Would the SRPMIC-DOT consider putting traffic lights either on Center and Beeline or North Mesa Drive and Beeline? Sometimes to make a turn a left turn at Beeline from either North Mesa Drive or Center, the wait is long and vehicles are traveling fast. This would be a safety issue for school buses also. Also, bushes in the median at these locations block your view.

Tribal Council Presentation

Date: May 12, 2010

Location: May 12th – Salt River Tribal Council Chambers

Handout: Study Recommendations Handout

Participants: Tribal Council

Project Team: Jennifer Jack, SRPMIC-ECS Project Manager
Misty Dayzie, ADOT Project Manager
Julian Avila, ADOT CCP
Michael LaBianca, HDR

The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) Transportation Planning Study was initiated in mid-2009 to develop transportation improvement recommendations to meet the Community's long range needs. The recommendations address roadway safety issues, walking and bicycle routes, cut-through traffic concerns and public transportation for Community members. These transportation recommendations are intended to improve the Community's quality of life.

The second round of Community outreach was intended to provide Community members with an overview of the SRPMIC Transportation Planning Study, update them on the progress made to date, solicit input regarding the transportation recommendations, and understand any issues or concerns that should be addressed in the final Study recommendations. The second round of outreach efforts included:

- Elders' Breakfasts – April 7th and May 5th
- SRPMIC Earth Day Celebration – April 24th
- Community Workshops – May 17th and May 24th
- Tribal Council Presentation – May 12th and June 16th

On May 12th, the Project Team provided Tribal Council an overview of the Study, progress to date, and preliminary recommendations. The purpose of the meeting was to provide Tribal Council a preview of the recommendations before the Community Workshops.

Comments Following a PowerPoint presentation, the Tribal Council made the following comments:

- In the Community member comments, Broderick Antone requested that the Lehi connector road be placed as priority 1.
- President commented that the Community population seems low. Michael responded that we got that comment from others and checked with various staff departments to verify and get the most accurate data that we could. One councilmember asked if the plan included truck routes. NOTE: In speaking with Jennifer and Phil after the presentation it was suggested that we include a reference in the Plan to an earlier study done for SRPMIC addressing this topic.
- Councilmember Richardo Leonard asked if we planned on presenting at any District Meetings. Jennifer Jack responded that we went to two District Meetings at the early stages and we would be happy to come to anyone's District that would like. Councilmember Leonard requested that we come to his District Meeting on June 15.
- Councilmember Claire Miller requested a copy of the 2001 Transportation Plan. NOTE: Jennifer Jack burned it to a CD on May 14th and took to her office.
- One councilmember indicated that the lanes are very narrow on Gilbert Road and many bicyclists try to use that road. She is afraid that a bicyclist will get hit or that there will be an accident if a car swerves to miss a bike. She requested an alternate route for bicyclists to use until the road is complete. Michael LaBianca responded that a multiuse trail is being recommended for Gilbert Road. The Council expressed concern on the maintenance of such a trail. They have seen a lack of maintenance on Gilbert Road and want to make sure there is a plan for additional facilities to be properly maintained.
- One councilmember expressed his concern for school bus safety and asked if the plan takes into consideration slowing down traffic during school pick up and drop off times. Michael LaBianca answered that the study by Red Mountain Engineering looked into this concern and that HDR incorporated some of the recommendations into our model which lead to a decrease in speeds by a third.
- One councilmember asked if there was a standard spacing for speed limit signs and indicated that McDowell Road maintained by MCDOT needs to have a closer spacing on speed limit signs. Michael LaBianca responded that we would pass this comment on to the Maricopa County TAC representative.
- President emphasized that the proposed Dobson Bridge over the Salt River (priority 9) was still under review and that no decisions have been made yet.
- Council requested that we return to the June 16th quarterly meeting. Jennifer Jack has asked to be placed on the agenda for this meeting.
- Councilmember Deanna Scabby asked about what advertising we have done for the upcoming workshops. She had not seen anything. Jennifer Jack told her that we placed announcements in water bill mailers, on the internet and intranet

under Community Announcements, on the marquees, and on the signs throughout the Community. NOTE: Jennifer confirmed with Esther on May 14th and she said that it did go to all those places as well as the newspaper, senior center, and senior home delivery.

Jennifer Jack thanked the Tribal Council for their ideas and the Project Team looks forward to coming back before on June 16th.

Tribal Council Quarterly Meeting Presentation

Date: June 16, 2010

Location: Salt River Tribal Council Chambers

Handout: Study Recommendations Handout

Participants: Tribal Council and Public

Project Team: Jennifer Jack, SRPMIC-ECS Project Manager
Misty Dayzie, ADOT Project Manager
Michael Gorton, HDR
Michael LaBianca, HDR

On June 16th, the Project Team returned to the Tribal Council at the Quarterly Meeting for an overview of the Study, progress to date, and preliminary recommendations. The purpose of the meeting was to provide Tribal Council a preview of the specific Plan recommendations.

Comments Following a PowerPoint presentation, the public made the following comments:

- Did the study collect traffic counts that identify the non-resident cut-through traffic using Community roads? Michael Gorton responded that the Red Mountain Engineering cut-through traffic study collected data on cut-through traffic. Jennifer Jack provided here contact information to the individual making to question for later follow up.
- How many people attended the public workshops? Jennifer Jack responded that one person attended the May Lehi workshop and three attended the May Salt River workshop. Jennifer also indicated that all of the outreach and summaries was posted on the ADOT project website.
- SRPMIC staff collected comments at the front counter from Community member Brodrick Antone:
 - He feels like the 92nd Street/Dobson improvements will lead to more people cutting through into the Community but he can see that it is warranted. He is a landowner in the Windstone area and would like to discuss further with the other 23 landowner representatives before he gives their position on the 92nd Street/Dobson improvements.
 - He likes that the Lehi connection is included in the plan. He feels that a bridge should be constructed in the near term to connect Lehi and Salt River.
 - He wants to see a new road constructed on Gilbert Road north of the Beeline to Indian Bend and Indian Bend from Gilbert to Mesa Dr.
 - He also wants to see light rail along Pima Road.
 - He requested that ECS present the study at the next landowner meeting in July.

Community Workshop

Date: May 17, 2010 and May 24, 2010

Location: May 17th - Lehi Community Building; 1231 E. Oak Street
May 24th – Salt River Community Building

Handouts: Study Recommendations Handout

Participants: Lehi Community Workshop

Carolyn French

Salt River Community Workshop

Collette Corthwy

Bonnie Makil

Debby Makil

Project Team: Jennifer Jack, SRPMIC-ECS Project Manager

Misty Dayzie, ADOT Project Manager

Julian Avila, ADOT CCP

Michael Gorton, HDR

Michael LaBianca, HDR

Peggy Fiandaca, Partners for Strategic Action, Inc.

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Promotions The Community Workshops were extensively promoted within the Community in the following ways:

- Water Bill Mailer – 1,600 copies distributed; Community members received their water bills 7 to 10 days prior to the workshops
- Two Paid Advertisements in the Community Newspaper – newspaper delivery dates April 15th and May 6th
- Announcement on SRPMIC digital signage and marquee – May 3rd
- Flyers posted to the 16 Community bulletin boards – May 3rd
- 160 flyers distributed with the home delivered meals to seniors – May 3rd
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- Announcement at the two Elders’ Breakfasts – April 7 and May 5

Meeting Format The Community Workshop was an open house format where participants could discuss one-on-one with the consultants and SRPMIC staff the recommendations while reviewing project displays. Michael Gorton with HDR (Transportation Consultant Project Manager) used PowerPoint slides to discuss the Study and transportation recommendations. Michael explained that the Study addresses roadway safety issues, walking and bicycle routes, cut-through traffic concerns and public transportation for Community Members to get to the doctor, work or shopping. Michael explained the Study’s outcome is a long-range plan for transportation improvements within SRPMIC.

Comments The Project Team then facilitated a discussion of questions, issues, and ideas that participants expressed:

- Transit should be a 7-day per week service to provide service for dialysis patients
- Don’t like 92nd Street widening because it is too big of a road east of the freeway (101)
- Don’t like to have economic development coming east of the freeway
- Transit circulator is needed and would like to have regular service
- Like the sidewalks being shown; they are needed for safety purposes; now people have to walk on the roads
- Need to pass a leash law within the Community

The Project Team thanked the participants for their ideas and encouraged their ongoing participation. If they had additional ideas or comments, they could let Misty Dayzie (ADOT) or Jennifer Jack (SRPMIC) know about them.