

Business Engagement and Compliance

ADOT Begins New Planning Phase for Sonoran Corridor

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration and regional planning agencies, is preparing to kick off the next phase of the Sonoran Corridor Study. This roughly 20-mile corridor, also known as State Route 410, would create a new link between Interstates 19 and 10 to the south of Tucson International Airport.

The Design Concept Report and Tier 2 Environmental Impact Statement study for the Sonoran Corridor will:

- Envision a narrow 400-foot wide corridor within the identified 2,000-foot corridor that provides a continuous high-capacity highway extending from I-19 to I-10 within Pima County.
- Identify environmental considerations and mitigation efforts.
- Identify interchange locations and design concepts.
- Develop other design features.

Public and stakeholder outreach will occur throughout the process with public meetings scheduled for fall 2024 and spring 2025, and a public hearing in summer 2026. ADOT will provide advance notice to email subscribers and on the study webpage at [SR410SonoranCorridorTier2Study](https://www.adot.gov/SR410SonoranCorridorTier2Study). The project team encourages residents, business owners and other community stakeholders to provide feedback.



NEWLY CERTIFIED DBE FIRMS

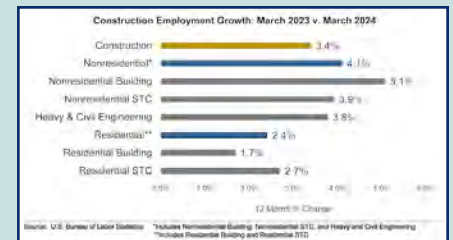
- Terram PSI LLC
- Educators 4 Education LLC
- INVision Smart Window LLC
- OPT Beyond Fitness: Risawasi LLC
- P Taylor Consulting LLC
- Taurus Service Group LLC
- VR Electrical Services LLC
- Windmill Landscaping and Cleaning



How to Recover When a Project Does Not Go Well



GSA Gives Another \$98.4 Million to Port of Entry Project



Nonresidential Construction Jobs Jump by 24,600

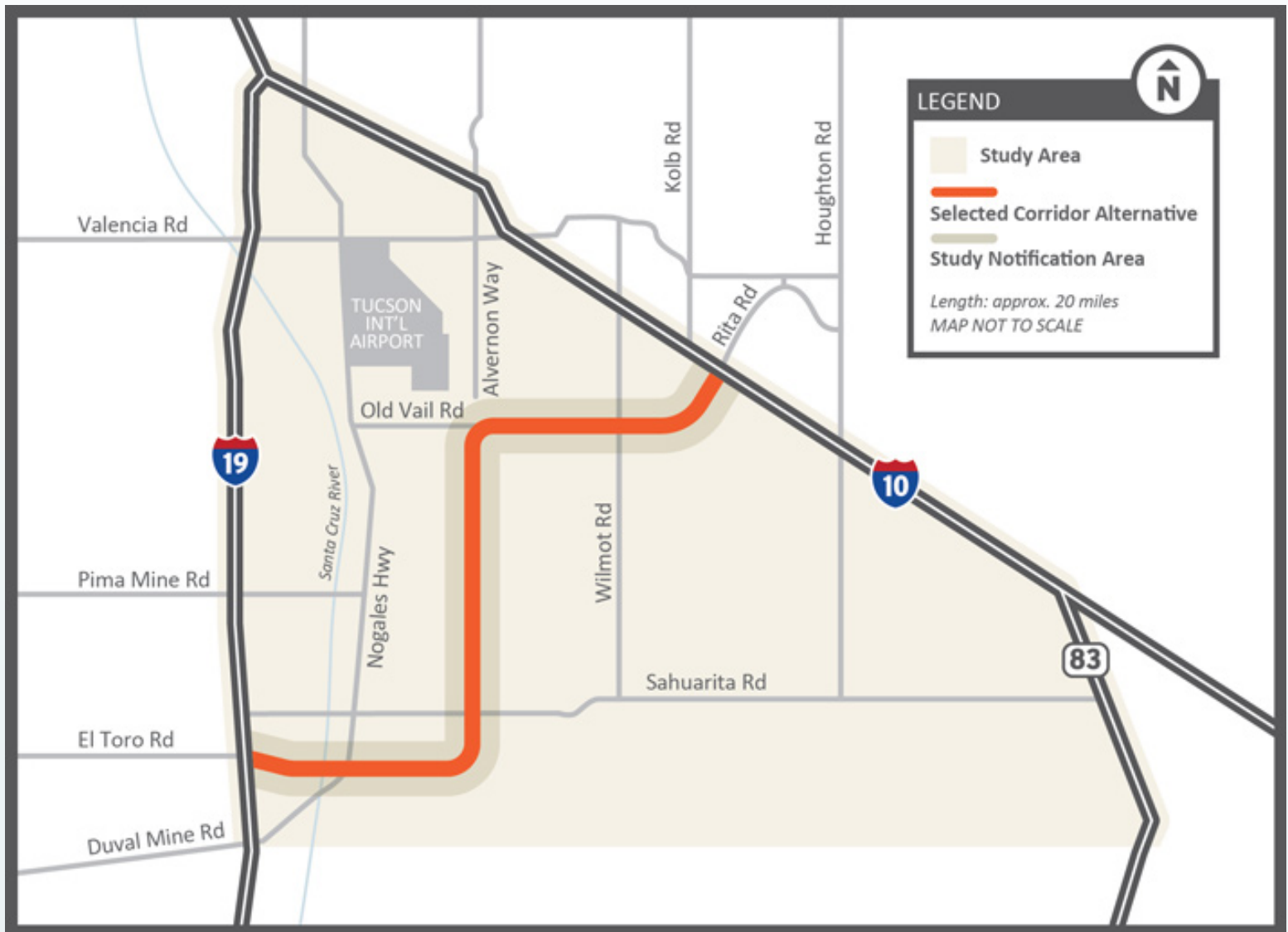
- ▶ **EVENTS**
- ▶ **OPPORTUNITIES**
- ▶ **EXTERNAL LINKS**

ADOT Begins New Planning Phase for Sonoran Corridor (Cont'd)

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The Sonoran Corridor study area is located within Pima County between I-10 and I-19, south of Tucson International Airport. The study area begins in the west near I-19 and El Toro Road within the town of Sahuarita and travels east to an extension of the city of Tucson's Alvernon Way north-south alignment. It travels north along the Alvernon Way alignment to Old Vail Road and then travels east along the Old Vail Road alignment, where it connects Rita Road to I-10. The corridor is just more than 20 miles long.

The study will include the development of a range of approximately 400-foot-wide right-of-way alignment alternatives, including a "no-build" alternative. Results of the study will be included in the Design Concept Report and Tier 2 Environmental Impact Statement to be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration for review and approval. The study process will include comprehensive analysis, measurement, assessment and reporting on multiple factors related to environmental and community needs in the study area. ([Source](#))



Clients Aren't Always Happy With You

How to recover when a project does not go well

Getting clients is challenging. You make phone calls, meet at networking events, set up one-on-one meetings, and follow up with excellent proposals that hit the mark. Then, you sign the contract and you are ready to go. It is exciting to add a key client to your portfolio, you think. You kick off the project and ...

Things do not go as planned.

You struggle to meet deadlines. They (your client's team members) do not return calls. Your team members get sick, have family emergencies or do not have the skills to perform as expected. They do not return calls. Another client – the one that pays the best – has an emergency need. And they still do not return calls.

When they call, it is not a good conversation. A key client is not happy with your service or work product. All that effort to win them seems like it is wasted time.

Here are three recovery suggestions to get back on the right path:

1. NOW: Communicate with the Client

- **Open Dialogue. Immediately address the situation with the client.** Maintain or rebuild trust with open, honest and transparent communication about what went wrong and how you intend to fix it.
- **Offer Solutions:** Present a clear plan to rectify issues, including timelines, financial considerations and any compensatory measures if applicable. **Be realistic and ensure any promises made can be delivered.**
- **Engage Regularly:** Keep a key client updated on progress as you work through the recovery plan to reassure them that corrective action is being taken and that their project is a priority.

2. THEN: Conduct a Thorough Retrospective Analysis

- **Identify Issues: Conduct an in-depth analysis to identify what went wrong.** This should include all aspects of the project — from initial design, planning and execution to communication and client management. Engage with your team and the client to gather insights from different perspectives.
- **Learn from Mistakes:** Identify both the root causes of problems and the symptomatic issues that arose to develop strategies to prevent similar issues in future projects.
- **Improve Processes:** Based on your findings, update your project management methodologies, communication protocols and quality control processes. This might involve training staff, investing in new technologies or revising project timelines and budgets for future projects.

3. AND THEN: Rebuild Your Reputation

- **Leverage Successful Projects:** Showcase your firm's successes through case studies, testimonials and portfolios. Highlight your strengths and past successes to help counteract negative perceptions from the failed project.
- **Continue to Engage in Industry and Community Activities:** This can improve your firm's visibility and reputation by showing your commitment to excellence and community values.
- **Request Feedback: Seek feedback from clients, even from projects that didn't go well.** This can provide valuable insights and show that your firm is committed to continuous improvement.

Projects do not always go as planned. These steps are essential for moving past a setback and laying the groundwork for future success.



GSA Gives Another \$98.4 Million to Port of Entry Project

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) announced recently the \$98.9 million in [Inflation Reduction Act](#) (IRA) funding for low-embodied carbon construction materials and emerging and sustainable technologies to incorporate into the [San Luis I Land Port of Entry](#) project.

The second busiest non-commercial vehicle port in Arizona is poised for a transformative expansion and modernization with the recent infusion of federal funding. This investment includes the creation of the first all-electric, net zero energy land port of entry in the United States.

The San Luis project is [one of 38 land port of entry projects](#) receiving \$1 billion, in total, in IRA funding.

The \$359 million project, slated to be complete in 2028, will incorporate water-saving features, advanced insulation materials and energy-efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems so this port can operate efficiently in the desert environment.

With IRA funding the project will spur the market for low-embodied carbon materials through the purchase of low-embodied carbon masonry, concrete, glass and structural steel. The all-electric, net zero energy features include a substantial solar panel installation and a microgrid system with battery storage to power the port 24 hours a day, seven days a week independent of the electric grid.

The San Luis I land port, operational since 1984, currently processes more than 3 million vehicles and 2.5 million pedestrians annually, surpassing its initial design capacity.

GSA is responsible for constructing and maintaining land ports of entry along the nation's borders in partnership with and support of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection and other federal inspection agencies. GSA is modernizing 26 land ports along the Canadian and Mexican borders. These upgrades will strengthen supply chains, create good-paying jobs, enhance safety and security, and provide sustainable solutions to keep these ports operating efficiently and effectively for years to come. ([Source](#))



Nonresidential Construction Jobs Jump by 24,600

The construction industry added 39,000 jobs on net in March 2024, according to an Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) analysis of data released recently by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. On a year-over-year basis, industry employment has expanded by 270,000 jobs, an increase of 3.4%.

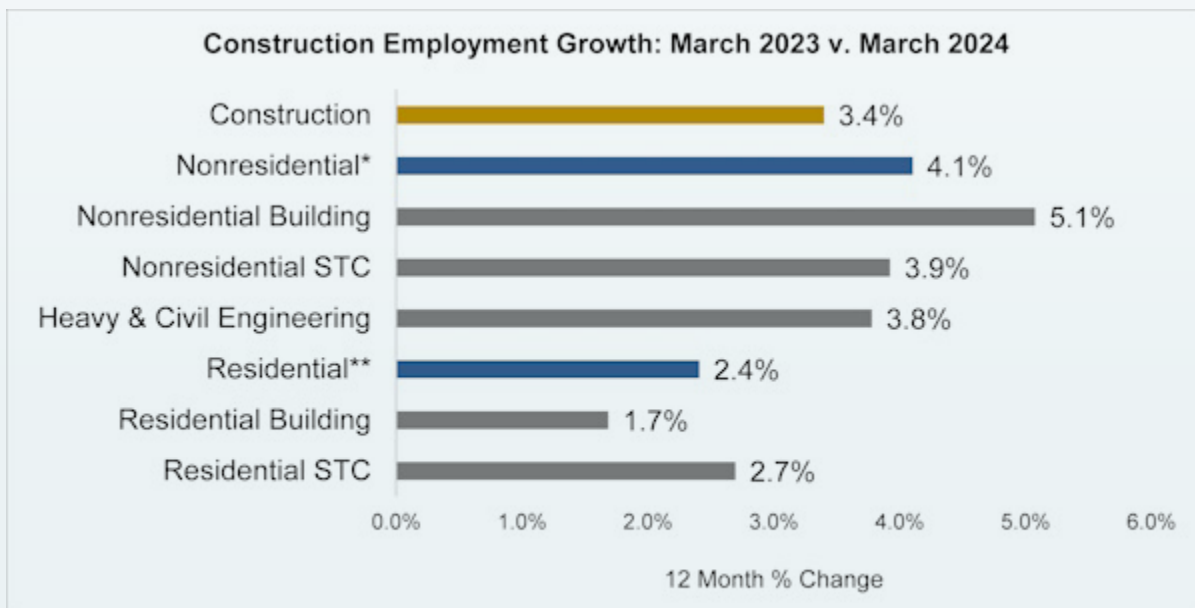
Nonresidential construction employment increased by 24,600 positions on net, with growth in all three subcategories. Nonresidential specialty trade added the most jobs, increasing by 16,300 positions. Heavy and civil engineering, and nonresidential buildings added 6,000 and 2,300 jobs, respectively.

The construction unemployment rate fell to 5.4% in March 2024. Unemployment across all industries declined from 3.9% in February 2024 to 3.8% last month.

“This release was a blockbuster jobs report and indicates that recession is not arriving anytime soon,” said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. “The 39,000 jobs added by the nation’s construction segment was roughly twice the monthly growth observed over the past year. If one focuses purely on nonresidential construction, monthly job growth was nearly 80% faster than the one-year average.

“Structural transformations in the economy, including replenished domestic supply chains, expanded data center demand and augmented infrastructure, are making it difficult for many project owners to wait for lower construction delivery costs,” said Basu. “Despite the effects of [worker shortages](#), still-elevated [materials prices](#), newly emerging supply chain issues and the high cost of project financing, both privately and publicly financed segments produced substantial employment growth in March. This comports with ABC’s [Construction Confidence Index](#), which shows that a large share of contractors intend to grow their staffing levels over the next six months.

“As always, the jobs report was not completely positive,” said Basu. “Those in search of lower inflation and interest rates will not be comforted by this release. While economywide year-over-year wage growth softened to 4.1% in March, the monthly wage growth figure suggested a pace of compensation growth that will render it difficult for the Federal Reserve to substantially reduce interest rates in 2024. The notion that interest rates will remain higher for longer remains firmly in place, which means that project financing costs will likely be an ongoing issue for construction demand, especially in privately financed segments, for the foreseeable future.” [\(Source\)](#)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics *Includes Nonresidential Building, Nonresidential STC, and Heavy and Civil Engineering **Includes Residential Building and Residential STC



LIVE DBE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES - OJT
BREAKING NEWS

A Look Into On-The-Job Training Supportive Services

In line with the FHWA On-the-Job Training Supportive Services (OJTSS) state program mandates, **ADOT's OJTSS program** aims to promote diversity and accessibility in skilled construction careers, particularly targeting women, minorities, veterans, and economically disadvantaged individuals. This involves various initiatives like apprenticeship programs, OJT programs, and post-secondary construction education. The program primarily focuses on recruiting, training, and placing participants in construction and highway construction jobs.

Every year, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) sends out two calls for Statement of Work (SOW) Memorandums for OJTSS and another for the National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI). These documents cover the projected SOW and tell a story of "how" and "where" the FHWA allocated money will be spent over the next year. There are two parts to this process. The first part focuses on ADOT's OJTSS four program goals that cover outreach events, pre-apprenticeship training, CDL skills training, and support for apprenticeship programs.

OJTSS Program Goals

- Goal #1** Partner with community-based organizations to conduct outreach events aimed at increasing the awareness of job opportunities that are within the highway construction industry.
- Goal #2** Provide highway construction pre-apprenticeship training to women, minorities, veterans and economically disadvantaged individuals to increase their level of skills, and introduce them to the highway construction industry.
- Goal #3** Provide support for CDL skills training to women, minorities, veterans and economically disadvantaged individuals so they can have marketable skills needed to enter approved apprenticeship programs.
- Goal #4** Provide support to approved apprenticeship programs to retain women, minorities, veterans and economically disadvantaged individuals in the highway construction industry.

The second part involves the NSTI Program hosted at Arizona State University (ASU), targeting first-generation college students, women, and minorities in engineering. The program aims to foster diversity and innovation in transportation engineering through a broad-based curriculum covering various transportation topics and providing information about resources for achieving a bachelor's degree at ASU. Ultimately, these programs seek to promote diversity and accessibility in construction and transportation careers, offering pathways for underrepresented groups to enter and thrive in these industries. For more information, visit the ADOT website or contact the OJTSS / Workforce Development Program Manager, David Simmons.



David Simmons
OJTSS Program Manager
dsimmons3@azdot.gov

David Simmons, On-The-Job Training Program Manager, worked on Heavy Equipment after college and in 2010 began teaching mechanical theory to future technicians at Universal Technical Institute (UTI) and Tesla. David joined ADOT in 2018 as a Trainer and in 2022 joined the Business Engagement and Compliance Office (BECO). David believes in and is motivated to help women, minorities, veterans and economically disadvantaged individuals.

Business Engagement and Compliance

ADOT/BECO Other Associations

****ATTENTION TO ALL FIRMS****

Need help preparing DBE affidavits?
Please see our tutorial video below:

["Preparing DBE Affidavits"](#)



APRIL

- 22** **PMI: Toastmasters: PMIT Changemakers**
5 - 6 p.m.
Location: Virtual
- 22** **AZ Water Association: 97th Annual AZ Water Golf Tournament**
6:30 a.m.
Location: Whirlwind Golf Club
5692 W. North Loop Road, Chandler
- 23** **ABA: Mental Health Issues in Construction**
8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Location: Arizona Builders Alliance
1661 N. Swan Ste. 144, Tucson
- 24** **AZ Water Association: Tap Into Quality Meeting**
10 a.m.
Location: TBD
- 23-25** **AZ Water Association: 97th Annual Conference & Exhibition**
7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Location: Phoenix Convention Center, South Building
33 S. Third St., Phoenix
- 25** **ASBA: A Panel Discussion on Hiring Beyond Traditional Channels**
8 - 10 a.m.
Location: Rio Salado Conference Center
2323 W. 14th St., Tempe
- 26** **CJE Scholarship Southwest Chapter Golf Outing**
7:30 a.m.
Location: Legacy Golf Club
6808 S. 32nd St., Phoenix
- 26** **Valley Partnership April Friday Morning Breakfast**
7:30 - 9 a.m.
Location: Phoenix Country Club
2901 N. Seventh St., Phoenix

Featured Federal-Aid Projects

CURRENT OPEN SOLICITATIONS

Due Date	Project Valuation	DBE Goal	Solicitation / Project Number	Type	Project Owner and Description	Contact
4/19/24 11:00 a.m. MST	\$12.6 million	11.48%	069-A-(217)T; H873901C	IFB	ADOT - Widen Roadway, Cordes Junction to Prescott Highway from Prescott Lakes Parkway to Heather Heights. The work consists of widening, milling and paving the roadway; constructing curb and gutter, raised median, installing new pipe culverts and storm drains; removing and installing a traffic signal; box culvert extension, signing, striping and other related work.	Iqbal Hossain, Deputy Director of the Multimodal Planning Division, at ihossain@azdot.gov .
4/26/24 11:00 a.m. MST	\$1.51 million	8.78%	YYV-0(211)T; T035501C	IFB	ADOT - System Enhancement, Old Highway 66 & Ft. Rock Road. The work consists of widening the existing highway to add new eastbound and westbound turn lanes and repaving Fort Rock Road.	Iqbal Hossain, Deputy Director of the Multimodal Planning Division, at ihossain@azdot.gov .
5/10/24 11:00 a.m. MST	\$2.75 million	1.94%	GLN-0(259)A; T011901C	IFB	ADOT - Construct Flashing Yellow Arrows, Glendale REBID. The work consists of constructing and installing traffic signal improvements for flashing yellow arrows, modifying medians, installing retro-reflective tape on signal heads, signing, & striping.	Iqbal Hossain, Deputy Director of the Multimodal Planning Division, at ihossain@azdot.gov .
6/21/24 11:00 a.m. MST	\$198 million	9.38%	F031601C; 101-A(214)T	IFB	ADOT - Widen Roadway, Agua Fria Highway (SR 101L) 75th Avenue to I-17. The work consists of widening the existing SR 101L freeway to add general purpose lanes and restriping I-17/SR 101L Ramp WN and widening NB I-17 to add an additional travel lane.	Iqbal Hossain, Deputy Director of the Multimodal Planning Division, at ihossain@azdot.gov .

External Links:

- [ADOT Current Advertisements](#)
- [ADOT Engineering Advertisements](#)
- [ADOT Public-Private Partnership Initiatives](#)
- [ADOT Advertised Alternative Delivery Projects](#)
- [Bidding Opportunities Around the State](#)

DBE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM

1801 W. Jefferson St., Ste. 101, Phoenix AZ
602.712.7761
DBESupportiveServices@azdot.gov



ADOT DBE & SMALL BUSINESS TRANSPORTATION EXPO

Mesa Convention Center, Building C • Tuesday, May 7th • 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

In-Person & Free to Attend • ADOTDBEEXPO.com

Who Should Attend?

- Certified DBEs, SBEs and SBCs.
- Small Businesses who want to work on Transportation Projects.
- Design and Engineering Firms.
- General Contractors involved in Transportation Projects.
- Trade Contractors and Service Providers on Transportation Projects.
- Non-Profits who Provide services to Small Businesses.
- Public Agencies.

Helping Your Small Business SOAR in 2024

The ADOT DBE & Small Business Transportation EXPO is one of the best events to connect with potential clients and find out about upcoming work. Attendees will hear about upcoming projects from transportation leaders including: ADOT, MCDOT, the city of Phoenix Public Transit and Street Transportation Departments, Valley Metro and Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

Some of the Valley's largest engineering and construction firms will be hosting tables and meeting new potential subconsultants, subcontractors and service providers for their projects. Additionally, small businesses can find out about a host of assistance programs through nonprofits and Technical Procurement Assistance Centers.

Don't delay, register today!



ADOT



FHWA

MARICOPA COUNTY

PHX
PHOENIX SKY HARBOR
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

VALLEY METRO

DBE goals for this project:
10.16%
for Professional Services
10.88%
for Construction Work

Reflecting on Progress Through 2023



ACS SERVICES LLC was engaged in the design phase of this project; Our drilling division performed drilling services on 82 locations and coring on 6 locations, while our Laboratory performed the associated lab testing.

For more information: www.acsservicesllc.com annemarie@acsservicesllc.com



Ammex Rebar Placers Inc. is furnishing and placing the reinforcing steel for several structures including the bridges, drilled shafts, roadway barrier, and much more.

For more information: ammexrebarplacers@cox.net



Ethos Engineering LLC provided structural and geotechnical engineering services on the I-17 Flex Lane project; Final structural design and post design services included all miscellaneous structures and the deck replacement for NB Bumble Bee bridge while geotechnical engineering covered soil stabilization.

For more information: www.ethosengineers.com



Central Creative is an Arizona DBE that has focused for more than two decades on public involvement providing strategic communications for infrastructure projects. We are proud to serve as Public Relations Manager for KFJV including services such as traffic alerts, social media, public inquiry, news releases, and outreach activities.

For more information: kristin@centralcreativeaz.com



Patti Reznik Photography has the exciting, challenging, and rewarding opportunity to create monthly aerial construction photos and videos to document the progress on the I-17 Flex Lanes project.

For more information: www.arizonaaerial.com (602) 622-3255



Wheat Design Group performed a native plant inventory for the 23-mile stretch of I-17, developed the landscape and permanent erosion control plans, and wrote the Noxious and Invasive Species Control Plan.

For more information: www.wheatdesigngroup.com



Reliable Janitor Services Inc. dba Sparkle Clean, a certified SBE/DBE company est. 2012, understands the janitorial importance of a clean working environment for the workers which helps promote better production, as well as help the prime contractor meet their goals for the project.

For more information: Janet@SPARKLECLEANAZ.COM



KFJV is proud to recognize our subcontractors and their efforts in making this project a success.

Newly Certified DBEs Through Project Outreach:

linad Trucking

Questions? Contact Us! Flex.Outreach@Kiewit.com

I-17, ANTHEM WAY TI TO JCT. SR 69 (CORDES JUNCTION)



PROJECT OWNER

Arizona Department of Transportation

PROJECT NAME

I-17, Anthem Way TI to Jct. SR 69
(Cordes Junction)

Phoenix – Cordes Junction Highway

Public-Private Partnership
Design-Build-Operate-Maintain
Agreement

PROJECT NUMBER

17 MA 229 H6800 01C / NHPP-017-
A(228)S

DBE participation goal
established for this project:

10.16%
for Professional Services

10.88%
for Construction Work

OUR TEAM

The Kiewit-Fann Joint Venture (KFJV) is a strategic partnership between two trusted Arizona firms that have extensive experience working in rural environments, delivering highway projects. KFJV team members have an extensive history together on successful design-build and CMAR projects and have long-standing relationships with ADOT, local jurisdictions, and the community.

POTENTIAL SUBCONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES

KFJV is seeking diverse and local firms interested in pursuing multiple scopes of work on the I-17 Anthem Way project. The following scopes are open for solicitation:

- Buy PVC & CIP Wall Embeds
- De-lead Existing Bridge Bearings
- Handrail
- Bridge Deck Grooving
- Nursery Stock Trees
- Rock Bolt Walls
- Install Rock Anchors/Shotcrete
- Remove Ground Mounted Signs
- Routine Maintenance - Damaged Sign F&I
- Weld Bearing Replacements
- Slipform & CIP Concrete Barrier
- Flatwork

Attachments: Wage Decision No. AZ20210008 Mod No. 0 - Dated 01/01/2021

TAKE THE FIRST STEPS

Head to <https://www.kiewit.com/business-with-us/opportunities/i-17-anthem-way-project/> to complete the Subcontractor Questionnaire and create an account with Building Connected, or for additional information and future event dates.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

Contact us to learn about anticipated subcontract opportunities on the I-17 Anthem Way project at Flex.Outreach@kiewit.com.

KFJV is committed to meeting or exceeding stated project participation requirements upon award of ongoing and upcoming Arizona Department of Transportation projects; assisting interested DBEs in obtaining bonding, lines of credit or insurance; providing interested DBEs information related to the plans, specifications and requirements for work to be subcontracted or supplied by these DBEs; assisting interested DBEs in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials or related assistance or services; sub-dividing bid items into economically feasible work units to DBEs every advantage to quoting the project.

KFJV is an Equal Opportunity Employer.