



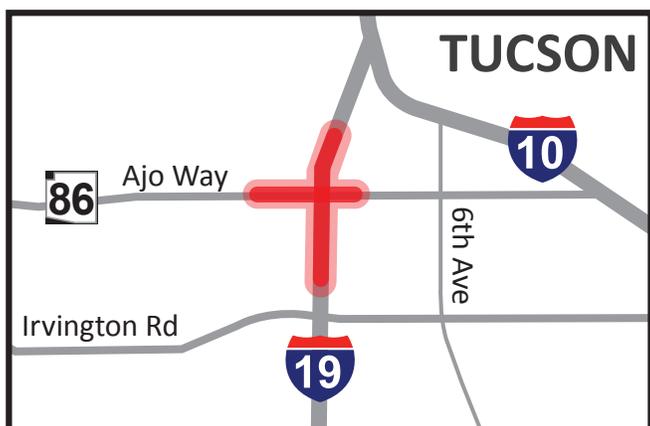
Interstate 19: Ajo Way Traffic Interchange Project

The Arizona Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, is nearing the start of construction on a project to replace the existing Interstate 19 traffic interchange at State Route 86, also known as Ajo Way. The new single-point urban interchange (SPUI) will improve traffic flow and enhance safety for motorists traveling on Tucson's southwest side.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The interchange at I-19 and Ajo Way is located in southwest Tucson. I-19 serves as a regional corridor connecting Nogales, Arizona, and northwestern Sonora, Mexico with Tucson and provides access to I-10, while Ajo Way provides access to the Tohono O'odham Nation and is commonly used to reach the popular tourist destination of Puerto Peñasco, Mexico, also known as Rocky Point.

Design has been completed and construction of Phase I is scheduled to begin in early 2016. Phase II is scheduled to begin construction in Fiscal Year 2018.



IMPROVEMENTS TO INCLUDE

Phase I (construction time an estimated 23 months)

- Widening 500 feet of the southbound Irvington Road off-ramp to provide an additional turn lane and increased capacity to help prevent traffic from backing up on the interstate
- Widening Ajo Way east of I-19 and upgrading the traffic signal at 16th Avenue
- Constructing noise walls along both sides of I-19 between Ajo Way and the Michigan Avenue pedestrian bridge to the south
- Constructing a new drainage basin southeast of the traffic interchange
- Improving drainage with new collection and discharge features
- Constructing a Julian Wash outfall channel
- Constructing a portion of a new drainage culvert for Rodeo Wash that runs beneath Ajo Way, with completion in the second phase of the project
- Reconstructing Lamar Avenue west of I-19
- Repaving Elizabeth Drive east of I-19
- Relocating utilities

Phase II (construction time an estimated 18 months)

- Reconstructing and widening southbound I-19 within the project area
- Constructing a "braided" ramp alignment with the southbound Ajo Way on-ramp to I-19 passing over the southbound Irvington off-ramp from I-19
- Widening northbound I-19 to add an auxiliary lane between Irvington Road and Ajo Way
- Completing I-19 noise walls south of Michigan Avenue and along the south side of Ajo Way between Kostka Avenue and I-19
- Completing drainage improvements along with improved drainage collection features
- Replacing the Michigan Avenue pedestrian bridge
- Replacing the Santa Cruz River Bridge on Ajo Way
- Constructing bank protection and the new Rodeo Wash outlet into the Santa Cruz River
- Reconstructing and widening Ajo Way from Holiday Isle to I-19
- Applying a rubberized pavement overlay of I-19 from Irvington Road to north of Ajo Way

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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