

APPENDIX A

Sample Agency Invitation Letters and Recipient Lists

Cooperating and Participating Agency Recipient List Sample Cooperating and Participating Agency Letter Section 106 Consulting Party Recipient List Sample Section 106 Consulting Party Letter

Cooperating and Participating Agency Recipient List

Federal

Bureau of Indian Affairs Bureau of Land Management Federal Aviation Administration Federal Emergency Management Agency Federal Railroad Administration Federal Transit Administration National Park Service, Saguaro National Park National Park Service, Tumacacori National Historical Park U.S. Air Force, Davis Monthan Air Force Base U.S. Air Force, Luke Air Force Base U.S. Army Corps of Engineers U.S. Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Customs and Border Protection U.S. Environmental Protection Agency U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Forest Service U.S. Forest Service, Coronado National Forest

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Western Area Power Administration

State

Arizona Air National Guard Arizona Corporation Commission Arizona Department of Corrections Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Arizona Department of Public Safety Arizona Department of Water Resources Arizona Game and Fish Department Arizona State Historic Preservation Office Arizona State Land Department Arizona State Parks

Regional

Central Arizona Governments Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization Maricopa Association of Governments Northern Arizona Council of Governments Pima Association of Governments SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization

County

Flood Control District of Maricopa County

Maricopa County Pima County Pima County Regional Flood Control District Pinal County Pinal County Flood Control District Santa Cruz County Santa Cruz County Flood Control District Yavapai County Yavapai County Flood Control District

Local

City of Buckeye City of Casa Grande City of Eloy City of Goodyear City of Maricopa City of Nogales City of Nogales City of South Tucson City of Surprise City of Surprise City of Tucson Town of Gila Bend Town of Gila Bend Town of Marana Town of Oro Valley Town of Sahuarita Town of Wickenburg

Tribal

Ak-Chin Indian Community Gila River Indian Community Pascua Yaqui Tribe Tohono O'odham Nation Tonto Apache Tribe

Public Utility

Arizona Public Service Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District Central Arizona Irrigation and Drainage District Central Arizona Project Cortaro-Marana Irrigation District Greene Reservoir Flood Control District Maricopa Flood Control District Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation and Drainage District Roosevelt Irrigation District Salt River Project San Carlos Irrigation Project Silverbell Irrigation and Drainage District Trico Electric Cooperative UNS Energy Corporation/Tucson Electric Power



ARIZONA DIVISION

4000 North Central Avenue Suite 1500 Phoenix, Arizona 85012-3500 Phone: (602) 379-3646 Fax: (602) 382-8998 http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/azdiv/index.htm

April 24, 2017

In Reply Refer To:

Sample Cooperating and Participating Agency Letter

999-M(161) TRACS No. 999 SW 0 M5180 01P I-11, I-19/SR 189 to US 93/SR 89 I-11 Corridor Tier 1 EIS Public and Agency Information Meeting Invitation Letter

Dear Cooperating and Participating Agencies:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) are continuing to move forward with efforts to prepare an Alternatives Selection Report (ASR) and Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the I-11 Corridor located between Nogales and Wickenburg in the counties of Santa Cruz, Pima, Pinal, Maricopa, and Yavapai, Arizona in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other regulatory requirements. The FHWA is the Federal Lead Agency and ADOT is the Local Project Sponsor for the Tier 1 EIS under NEPA. The purpose of this letter to invite you to participate in upcoming agency and public meetings scheduled May 2 through May 16, 2017.

A range of alternatives that meet the Purpose and Need have been developed based on input from the agency and public Scoping Meetings held in June 2016, technical analysis, findings from previous studies, and public comment. During the May 2017 Agency and Public Information Meetings, attendees will be able to review and comment on the range of corridor alternatives. Input received in May will be considered along with the technical evaluation and previous studies to determine the reasonable range of alternatives advanced for more detailed consideration in the Tier 1 EIS.

The FHWA and ADOT greatly appreciate your input, and we invite you to participate in any of the following Cooperating and Participating Agency or Public Information Meetings for the Tier 1 EIS:

Cooperating and Participating Agency Meetings

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Pima Association of Governments 1 East Broadway Boulevard #401, Tucson, Arizona

Wednesday, May 3, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Town of Marana City Council Chambers (webinar also available, see below) 11555 West Civic Center Drive, Marana, Arizona

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Peart Center 350 East 6th Street, Casa Grande, Arizona

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Estrella Mountain Community College – Komatke Hall – Plaza Gallery Room 3000 North Dysart Road, Avondale, Arizona

Public Information Meetings

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM AZ River Park Inn 777 West Cushing Street, Tucson, Arizona

Wednesday, May 3, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM Marana Middle School Cafeteria 11285 West Grier Road, Marana, Arizona

Thursday, May 4, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Nogales High School Cafeteria 1905 North Apache Boulevard, Nogales, Arizona

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Dorothy Powell Senior Adult Center, Dining Room 405 East 6th Street, Casa Grande, Arizona

Thursday, May 11, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Wickenburg Community Center 160 North Valentine Street, Wickenburg, Arizona

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:0 PM

Buckeye Community Center, Multipurpose Room 201 East Centre Avenue, Buckeye, Arizona

The Agency Meetings will be conducted earlier in the day, with a presentation from the project team followed by an open discussion. The same information will be presented at all Agency and Public Information Meetings. The Public Information Meetings will be conducted from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, with a presentation followed by an open-house format with study team members available to answer questions. Information on these meetings can be found on-line at http://illstudy.com/Arizona after April 28, 2017.

The regularly-scheduled Cooperating Agency meeting on May 3, 2017 will occur in Marana, Arizona as listed above as part of the scheduled Agency Meetings. A webinar will be made available for those unable to attend this meeting in person. The information is as follows:

Click Here:

https://aecom.webex.com/aecom/j.php?MTID=me1f3e6f6ef56e19139690b7145374086 Meeting Number/Call-In: 1 844 712 3247; Access Code: 597 439 834

If you are unable to attend any of the above meetings, the meeting materials will be available online by April 28, 2017 at the following link: <u>http://i11study.com/Arizona/index.asp</u>.

To be included in the meeting summary documentation, comments are requested by **June 2**, **2017**. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Rebecca Yedlin, FHWA Environmental Coordinator, at 602-382-8979 or <u>rebecca.yedlin@dot.gov</u>. Thank you for your cooperation and interest in the I-11 Corridor Tier 1 EIS.

Sincerely,

Karla S. Petty Division Administrator

ecc:

Jay Van Echo, ADOT Project Manager Jennifer Pyne, AECOM Consultant Team Project Manager RYedllin



Interstate 11 Corridor Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement, Nogales to Wickenburg

Spring 2017

WELCOME

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) welcome your input on the corridor alternatives developed as part of the environmental study for the proposed Interstate 11 (I-11) between Nogales and Wickenburg.

Please review and comment on the alternative corridor options for I-11 that will be studied in greater detail in the coming months. These corridor options were developed based on input from prior studies, agency and public scoping meetings, and technical analysis conducted to date.

WHAT IS I-11?

I-11 is envisioned as a continuous high-capacity transportation corridor that has the potential to enhance movement of people and freight, and to facilitate regional connectivity, trade, communications, and technology.

THE STUDY PROCESS

ADOT and FHWA are in the process of preparing the I-11 Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Under NEPA, federal lead agencies such as the FHWA are required to consider impacts of a proposed transportation corridor on social, cultural, natural and economic resources.

The environmental review process under NEPA also provides an opportunity for you to be involved in the decision-making. It helps you understand what is being proposed; allows you to offer your thoughts on alternative ways to accomplish what is being proposed; and seeks your comments on the potential environmental effects and possible mitigation required for the various alternatives.

I-11 TIER 1 EIS SCHEDULE **EIS** Analysis ROD Scoping Development Identify set of Document Confirm study alternatives Evaluate Identify Identify analysis; Preferred area: define range of Selected and identify Alternative purpose and methodology reasonable Alternative recommended alternatives need for further alternative study (\mathbb{C}) (C) (\mathbb{C}) (\mathbb{C}) (\mathbb{C}) \bigcirc MAY 2016 to NOV 2016 to IUL 2017 to IUN 2018 to AUG 2018 to AUG 2019 to OCT 2016 JUN 2017 MAY 2018 JUL 2018 JUL 2019 NOV 2019 FEIS - Final EIS EIS - Environmental Impact Statement Public Meetings Public Review Period DEIS - Draft EIS ROD - Record of Decision

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Attend a public meeting to review study information and provide comments. View public meeting materials and provide comments online at:



Illstudy.com/Arizona

To inquire about the study, please reach out to the study team:



I-11ADOTStudy@ hdrinc.com



1-844-544-8049 (bilingual)

Interstate 11 Tier 1 EIS Study Team c/o ADOT Communications 1655 W. Jackson St. Mail Drop 126F Phoenix, AZ 85007

Please submit comments by **Friday, June 2, 2017** so that the project team can include your comment in the meeting summary.



DEVELOPMENT OF CORRIDOR ALTERNATIVES

Alternative corridor options were developed through a systematic process based on concepts from prior studies, input received during the public and agency scoping meetings, as well as various topographical, environmental and other technical planning information that identified opportunities and constraints. These numerous alternatives were evaluated to provide a reasonable range of Build Corridor Alternatives, essentially a shortlist of alternatives. The next step is to advance the Build Corridor Alternatives, along with a No-Build Alternative (i.e., a do-nothing option), into a Tier 1 EIS - a detailed environmental analysis to recommend a preferred alternative for the I-11 Corridor. An Alternative Selection Report (ASR) is underway, as an early step, to document this process and will include input received from agency and public comments.





Prior Studies

Agency Scoping



Technical Analysis

REASONABLE RANGE OF BUILD CORRIDOR ALTERNATIVES FOR TIER 1 EIS ANALYSIS

The Build Corridor Alternatives are broken into shorter options to help identify specific issues along the 280-mile corridor from Nogales to Wickenburg. They are assigned an alphabetical letter to define one corridor option from another. The shorter corridor options will be combined to create end-to-end alternatives that will be compared in the Tier 1 EIS against a No-Build Alternative, which represents a benchmark against which to evaluate potential impacts.

TIER 1 VS TIER 2 LEVEL OF DETAIL

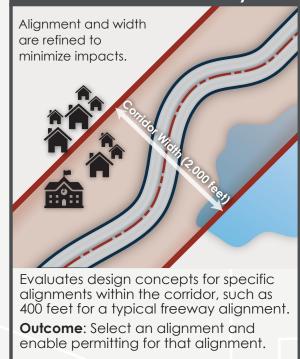
In the upcoming phase of this study, a Tier 1 EIS will be conducted to understand the potential impacts associated with each corridor alternative. The impacts will be assessed within a 2,000 foot wide corridor, even though the actual I-11 facility will be a much narrower footprint (e.g., approximately 400 feet for a new freeway). While the Tier 1 EIS will determine a preferred alternative for the general corridor, a Tier 2 environmental study would be required to identify the precise alignment and footprint for the future I-11 Corridor.



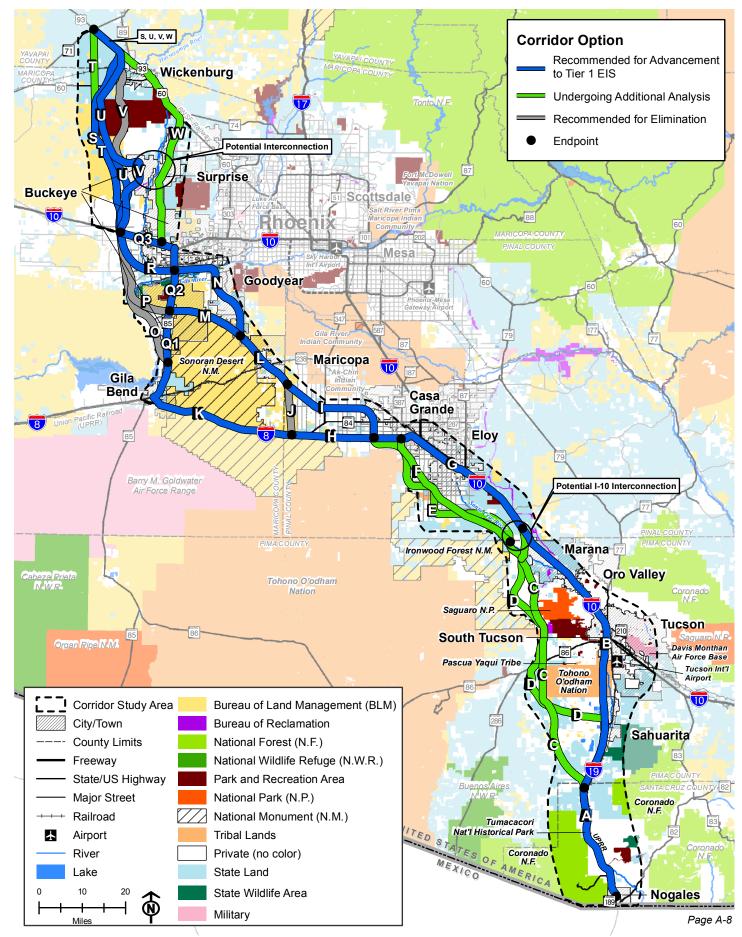
locations, at a program level, within which a new transportation facility could be located.

Outcome: Select a single corridor within which an alignment would be identified during Tier 2.

Tier 2 Environmental Study



RESULTS OF ALTERNATIVES SCREENING



WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED: SCOPING SUMMARY

Public scoping for the project occurred in June 2016. Scoping is an early, important step in the environmental review process. During scoping, the public and agencies have an opportunity to share their ideas and concerns, which help determine the "scope" or range of issues to be addressed in the environmental document. For more information, the Scoping Summary Report is located on the study website (i11study.com/Arizona).

More than 800 community members participated in the public scoping process. Six meetings were held throughout the corridor and comments were provided through various forms:



the highest ranking response was:





Emails & Letters



Comment Form



Comment Form and Online Survey Results (657 responses)

Question 1

The top two most important transportation problems experienced today or anticipated in the future that I-II could address include:



I. Relieving regional congestion; improving travel time and reliability

2. Improving freight travel and reliability, reducing bottlenecks on existing highways

Question 3

Top three human environmental factors to consider:

Land use

2. Neighborhoods, diverse communities, and residences





3. Public parks



I. Water resources



Question 4

2. Biological resources



3. Air quality

THE PURPOSE AND NEED FOR I-11

Defining the Purpose and Need for a project is a fundamental part of the NEPA process and provides the basis for identifying, evaluating, and screening corridor alternatives; it is one of the key components in determining and selecting a Preferred Corridor Alternative for I-11.

THE PURPOSE The overall purpose of the I-11 Corridor is to:

- Provide a high priority, high capacity, access-controlled, transportation corridor;
- Support improved regional mobility for people, goods, and homeland security;
- Connect major metropolitan areas and markets in the Intermountain West with Mexico and Canada; and
- Enhance access to the high capacity transportation network to support economic vitality.



HE NEED The problems, issues, and opportunities that support the need for a proposed transportation facility are:











The full Purpose and Need Statement is available on the study website (i11study.com/Arizona).



Interstate 11 Corridor Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement, Nogales to Wickenburg

Federal Aid No. 99**Page A-9** ADOT Project No. 999 SW 0 M5180 01P

Question 2 When asked to consider what I-11 should be or accommodate,

> Enhancing or expanding existing highways and freeways

Top three natural environmental factors to consider:

Section 106 Consulting Party Recipient List

Federal

Bureau of Indian Affairs Bureau of Land Management Federal Aviation Administration National Park Service, Saguaro National Park U.S. Air Force, Davis Monthan Air Force Base U.S. Air Force, Luke Air Force Base U.S. Air Force, Luke Air Force Base U.S. Army Corps of Engineers U.S. Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Customs and Border Protection U.S. Forest Service, Coronado National Forest Western Area Power Administration

State

Arizona Air National Guard Arizona State Historic Preservation Office Arizona State Land Department Arizona State Parks Arizona State Museum

County

Flood Control District of Maricopa County Maricopa County Department of Transportation Pima County Pinal County Santa Cruz County Santa Cruz County Flood Control District Yavapai County

Local

City of Buckeye City of Casa Grande City of Eloy City of Goodyear City of Maricopa City of Nogales City of South Tucson City of Surprise City of Surprise City of Tucson Town of Gila Bend Town of Marana Town of Sahuarita Town of Wickenburg

Tribal

Ak-Chin Indian Community Chemehuevi Indian Tribe Colorado River Indian Tribes Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Gila River Indian Community Havasupai Tribe Hopi Tribe Hualapai Tribe Moapa Band of Paiute Indians Navajo Nation Pascua Yaqui Tribe Pueblo of Zuni Quechan Tribe Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Tohono O'odham Nation **Tonto Apache Tribe** White Mountain Apache Tribe Yavapai-Apache Nation Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe

Public Utility

Arizona Public Service Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District Central Arizona Irrigation and Drainage District Central Arizona Project Cortaro-Marana Irrigation District Greene Reservoir Flood Control District Maricopa Flood Control District Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation and Drainage District Roosevelt Irrigation District Salt River Project San Carlos Irrigation Project Silverbell Irrigation and Drainage District Trico Electric Cooperative UNS Energy Corporation/Tucson Electric Power

Railroad

Union Pacific Railroad BNSF Railway

Non-Governmental Organization

Archaeology Southwest



ARIZONA DIVISION

4000 North Central Avenue Suite 1500 Phoenix, Arizona 85012-3500 Phone: (602) 379-3646 Fax: (602) 382-8998 http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/azdiv/index.htm

April 27, 2017

In Reply Refer To:

999-M(161) TRACS No. 999 SW 0 M5180 01P I-11, I-19/SR 189 to US 93/SR 89 I-11 Corridor Tier 1 EIS Continuing Section 106 Consultation Public Information Meeting Invitation

Sample Section 106 Consulting Party Letter

Mr. Matthew Behrend, Cultural Resources Section Manager Arizona State Land Department 1616 West Adams Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Mr. Behrend:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) are continuing to move forward with efforts to prepare an Alternatives Selection Report (ASR) and Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the I-11 Corridor located between Nogales and Wickenburg in the counties of Santa Cruz, Pima, Pinal, Maricopa, and Yavapai, Arizona in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other regulatory requirements. The FHWA is the Federal Lead Agency and ADOT is the Local Project Sponsor for the Tier 1 EIS under NEPA. The purpose of this letter to invite you to participate in upcoming public meetings scheduled May 2 through May 16, 2017.

A range of alternatives that meet the Purpose and Need have been developed based on input from the agency and public Scoping Meetings held in June 2016, technical analysis, findings from previous studies, and public comment. During the May 2017 Public Information Meetings, attendees will be able to review and comment on the range of corridor alternatives. Input received in May will be considered along with the technical evaluation and previous studies to determine the reasonable range of alternatives advanced for more detailed consideration in the Tier 1 EIS.

The FHWA and ADOT greatly appreciate your input, and we invite you to participate in any of the following Public Information Meetings for the Tier 1 EIS:

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Thursday, May 4, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM Nogales High School Cafeteria 1905 North Apache Boulevard, Nogales, Arizona Wednesday, May 10, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Dorothy Powell Senior Adult Center, Dining Room 405 East 6th Street, Casa Grande, Arizona

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The same information will be presented at all meetings. The Public Information Meetings will be conducted from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, with a presentation followed by an open-house format with study team members available to answer questions.

If you are unable to attend the meetings listed above, the meeting materials will be made available online by April 28, 2017 at the following link: <u>http://illstudy.com/Arizona/index.asp.</u> A fact sheet is also enclosed for your information. Comments can be submitted through the above link or on the enclosed comment form.

To be included in the meeting summary documentation, comments are requested by **June 2, 2017**. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Rebecca Yedlin, FHWA Environmental Coordinator, at 602-382-8979 or <u>rebecca.yedlin@dot.gov</u> or Lauren Clementino, ADOT Historic Preservation Specialist, at <u>lclementino@azdot.gov</u> or 928-637-0580. Thank you for your cooperation and interest in the I-11 Corridor Tier 1 EIS.

Sincerely,

Division Administrator

Enclosures

ecc:

Mr. Matthew Behrend, Cultural Resources Section Manager, <u>mbehrend@azland.gov</u> (with enclosures) Ms. Crystal Carrancho, Archaeological Projects Specialist, <u>ccarrancho@azland.gov</u> (with enclosures) Ms. April Sewequaptewa-Tutt, Archaeological Projects Specialist, <u>asewequaptewa-tutt@azland.gov</u> (with enclosures) RYedlin

LClementino



Interstate 11 Corridor Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement, Nogales to Wickenburg

Spring 2017

WELCOME

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) welcome your input on the corridor alternatives developed as part of the environmental study for the proposed Interstate 11 (I-11) between Nogales and Wickenburg.

Please review and comment on the alternative corridor options for I-11 that will be studied in greater detail in the coming months. These corridor options were developed based on input from prior studies, agency and public scoping meetings, and technical analysis conducted to date.

WHAT IS I-11?

I-11 is envisioned as a continuous high-capacity transportation corridor that has the potential to enhance movement of people and freight, and to facilitate regional connectivity, trade, communications, and technology.

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HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

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I-11ADOTStudy@ hdrinc.com



1-844-544-8049 (bilingual)

Interstate 11 Tier 1 EIS Study Team c/o ADOT Communications 1655 W. Jackson St. Mail Drop 126F Phoenix, AZ 85007

Please submit comments by **Friday, June 2, 2017** so that the project team can include your comment in the meeting summary.



DEVELOPMENT OF CORRIDOR ALTERNATIVES

Alternative corridor options were developed through a systematic process based on concepts from prior studies, input received during the public and agency scoping meetings, as well as various topographical, environmental and other technical planning information that identified opportunities and constraints. These numerous alternatives were evaluated to provide a reasonable range of Build Corridor Alternatives, essentially a shortlist of alternatives. The next step is to advance the Build Corridor Alternatives, along with a No-Build Alternative (i.e., a do-nothing option), into a Tier 1 EIS - a detailed environmental analysis to recommend a preferred alternative for the I-11 Corridor. An Alternative Selection Report (ASR) is underway, as an early step, to document this process and will include input received from agency and public comments.





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TIER 1 VS TIER 2 LEVEL OF DETAIL

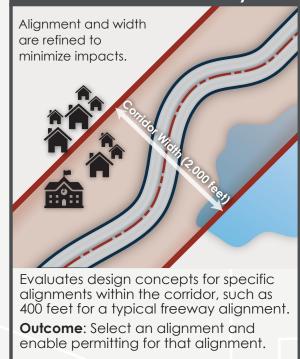
In the upcoming phase of this study, a Tier 1 EIS will be conducted to understand the potential impacts associated with each corridor alternative. The impacts will be assessed within a 2,000 foot wide corridor, even though the actual I-11 facility will be a much narrower footprint (e.g., approximately 400 feet for a new freeway). While the Tier 1 EIS will determine a preferred alternative for the general corridor, a Tier 2 environmental study would be required to identify the precise alignment and footprint for the future I-11 Corridor.



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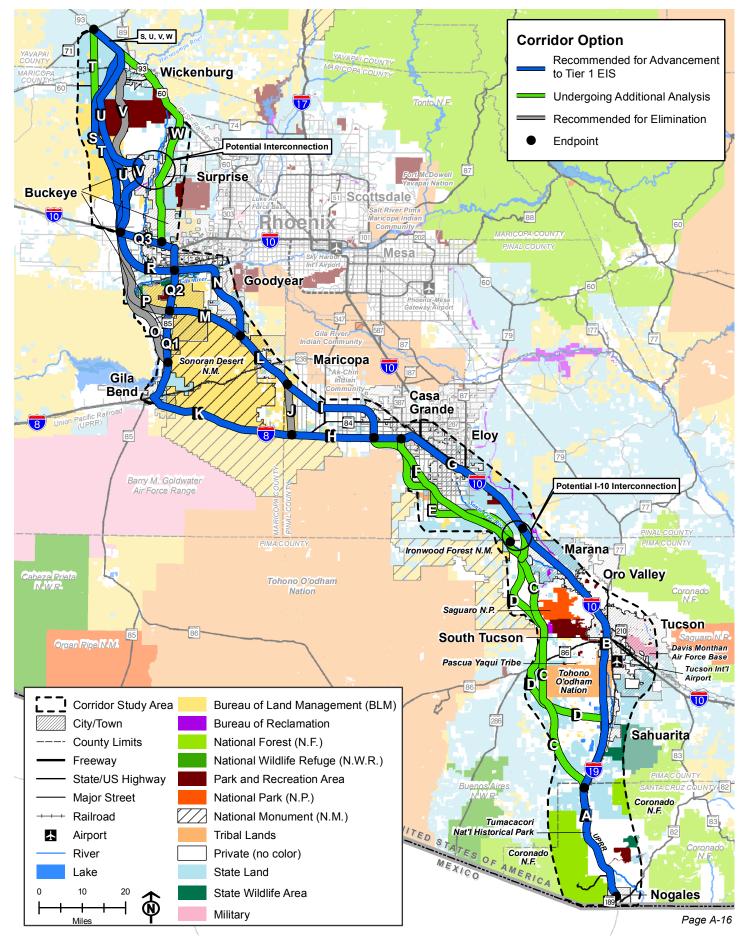
Outcome: Select a single corridor within which an alignment would be identified during Tier 2.

Tier 2 Environmental Study



Page A-15

RESULTS OF ALTERNATIVES SCREENING



WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED: SCOPING SUMMARY

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the highest ranking response was:





Emails & Letters



3. Air quality

Comment Form



Comment Form and Online Survey Results (657 responses)

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I. Relieving regional congestion; improving travel time and reliability

2. Improving freight travel and reliability, reducing bottlenecks on existing highways

Question 3

Top three human environmental factors to consider:

Land use

2. Neighborhoods, diverse communities, and residences





3. Public parks





Top three natural environmental factors to consider:

Enhancing or expanding existing highways and freeways





THE PURPOSE AND NEED FOR I-11

Defining the Purpose and Need for a project is a fundamental part of the NEPA process and provides the basis for identifying, evaluating, and screening corridor alternatives; it is one of the key components in determining and selecting a Preferred Corridor Alternative for I-11.

THE PURPOSE The overall purpose of the I-11 Corridor is to:

- Provide a high priority, high capacity, access-controlled, transportation corridor;
- Support improved regional mobility for people, goods, and homeland security;
- Connect major metropolitan areas and markets in the Intermountain West with Mexico and Canada; and
- Enhance access to the high capacity transportation network to support economic vitality.



HE NEED The problems, issues, and opportunities that support the need for a proposed transportation facility are:

Population and employment growth







Homeland security and national defense





Interstate 11 Corridor Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement, Nogales to Wickenburg

Federal Aid No. 9**Page 14-17** ADOT Project No. 999 SW 0 M5180 01P

Question 2 When asked to consider what I-11 should be or accommodate,

Question 4

2. Biological resources