

Subj: **I-10 OVERNIGHT CLOSURE, PUBLIC INPUT - ADOT CONSTRUCTION, F.D. FINANCIAL ISSUES**
[Test Email]
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 From: info@cdonewsletter.com
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TRI-NEWS
 CENTRAL
 J-6 Mescal Skyline

J-6 / Mescal CDO

KEEPING THE NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMED!

FIRE DISTRICT ISSUES CONTINUE WITH FINANCIAL REPORTING

In previous articles, CDO has informed the Mescal-J6 Fire District Governing Board and the community of thousands of dollars of discrepancies found in 5 sequential months of financial reports required by law – June 2015 (FY2015) and July thru October (FY 2016). [Click here for discrepancy summary.](#)

In December 2015, the F.D. Governing Board eliminated the position of Treasurer and hired CPA Curtis Ohlhauser to prepare the monthly financial reports for FY 2016.

To date, the District has not reviewed completed income/expense statements for financial action taken in December, January, or February including approval of Warrants and Payroll Checks. ARS 48-807 N. states a Fire District shall reconcile all balance sheet accounts for each calendar month within thirty days after the end of that calendar month. The fire district board shall review the reconciled balance sheet accounts monthly.

To date, the District has not reviewed and accepted HB2572 Reports for November, December, and January. ARS 48-807 O states that each month, the Fire District shall review financial reports, the updated cash flow projections report for the fiscal year, and all month-end fund statements and reports of the preceding month to include those reports provided by the county treasurer and each of the financial institutions in which the district maintains an account.

I-10 NEWS

MARCH 14, Mon.
MARCH 15, Tue.

Eastbound on-ramp closure at Mescal/J-Six (Exit 297) will remain closed between 6 A.M. and 4 P.M. each day.

MARCH 16, Wed.
MARCH 17, Thur
MARCH 18, Fri.

Eastbound off-ramp at Mescal/J-Six (Exit 297) will be closed between 6 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily.

MARCH 22ND -
MARCH 23RD
67-MILE DETOUR

LOCAL TRAFFIC NOTE BELOW

Overnight from 9 P.M. Tuesday March 22, to 5 A.M.

To date, the Board has not corrected HB2572 Reports for July, August, and September with thousands of dollars of discrepancies between the summary page and the attached support detail generated by the District's accounting software. Support detail for October has been requested as a Public Record to complete the linked CDO summary, but documents continue to not be provided. Currently, the State Ombudsman, Liz Hill, is facilitating a conversation with the District's Attorney Lauri Owen who is advising the District that they may pull these records their Board has previously approved if they have since found errors. Ms. Owen wrote: "In other words, an inaccurate copy pulled from the records of the agency ceases to be a public record upon that basis – the moment it is pulled, it is no longer a public document."

To date, the District has not adjusted the previous FY2015 accounting to correct bookkeeping errors just recently identified by a third party reviewer.

To date, \$ 33,000 of deposits have not been added to the District's Accounting software.

To date, the District explains their failure to move forward with financial reporting for FY 2016 is partially because:

- a. Kay Green and Matthew Breecher, Accounting Professionals, LLC, has not responded to multiple emails to provide the District with list of bookkeeping errors to correct for FY 2015, and
- b. Curtis E. Ohlhauser, CPA's office has not been able for several months to either access the District's online accounting software or to locate documents on the District's computer storage system.

The CDO Board is concerned that the Fire District Governing Board may have great difficulty correcting FY 2015 and FY 2016 Financial Documents so that adequate budget projections for the next two years can be provided to the public in April or May. With another tax increase looming, the Public needs to be actively involved during the upcoming budget process and consider the sustainability of the Fire District with the level of services tax payers want provided for their community and family.

Wed. March 23rd, the Davidson Canyon bridge replacement on westbound I-10 will require a major detour.

Full westbound closures are needed to allow crews to safely set girders and pour new bridge decks. The concrete girders, which are 119 feet long and weight 45,000 pounds each, are lifted off truck beds and put in place by a crane.

Detour signs will guide westbound I-10 motorists south on SR 90 (Exit 302), west on SR 82 to Sonoita and north on SR 83 to reconnect with I-10 at Exit 281.

**LOCAL TRAFFIC:
CDO
CONFIRMED
WITH ADOT:
People who live and work within the closure area will be allowed in by speaking with a DPS officer at the point of the closure. Nobody traveling west will be permitted beyond Marsh Station Road.**

For Calendar Year 2015, the Mescal-J6 Firefighters responded to 448 Calls: 185 Emergency Medical Services, 70 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 59 Fires, and 134 Other (False Alarm, Call Offs, etc.).

JUST ARRIVED: ADOT's Tentative Five-Year Construction Program: Public comment begins next week

Funding increases could allow some projects to move forward sooner

PHOENIX – Beginning next week, Arizonans will be able to provide input on the Arizona Department of Transportation's annual update of projects proposed to move forward in the next five years and how much local, state and federal funding should go toward those projects.

In its Tentative Five-Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program for 2017-2021, ADOT was able to recommend a few more projects for Greater Arizona because of additional funding through the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, as well as a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant. These projects otherwise would have remained in ADOT's Development Program for projects deemed six to 10 years out.

After the public comment period, which includes public hearings in Oro Valley (March 18), Phoenix (April 15) and Flagstaff (May 20), the State Transportation Board will make its final decision in June about what will be in the updated Five-Year Program.

Among ADOT's suggestions to move forward on a quicker timeline are two Interstate 10 widening projects in Pinal County (State Route 87 to Picacho Peak and Earley Road to Interstate 8), two widening projects along US 93 and the State Route 347 railroad overpass project in the city of Maricopa. The SR 347 project received a \$15 million TIGER grant and a \$15 million local contribution to add to ADOT's \$19 million commitment.

"Increased funding opportunities, particularly through the FAST Act, have allowed ADOT to propose accelerating some expansion projects in Greater

**NEXT ISSUE:
COUNTY RESPONDS
TO EASTER
MOUNTAIN'S
NOTICE OF CLAIM**

**WATER BILLS THAT
WILL IMPACT
COCHISE COUNTY**

Arizona that, once complete, will enhance key freight corridors for the movement of commerce,” said Michael Kies, director of ADOT’s Multimodal Planning Division. “Some of these projects are also critical to the overall implementation of the future Interstate 11, which will open the door to greater economic opportunities and competitiveness for our state.”

Facing growing statewide needs and limited transportation funding from traditional sources, ADOT remains committed to preserving the existing state highway system, which is valued at more than \$20 billion. ADOT’s proposal meets its goal of \$260 million per year dedicated to preservation work, such as bridges in need of upgrades and pavement in need of repair.

The 2017-2021 Tentative Program will be available for public review and comment at azdot.gov/fiveyearplan, where a “how to read it” guide is available. ADOT welcomes feedback through Survey Monkey at surveymonkey.com/r/CJY36HY, email at fiveyearconstructionprogram@azdot.gov and by calling 1-855-712-8530. The comment period ends at 5 p.m. on May 30.

Here are details for the three public hearings and the State Transportation Board’s June meeting:

March 18 at 9 a.m.: Public hearing and board meeting at the Oro Valley Town Hall Complex, 11000 N. La Canada Drive, Oro Valley.

April 15 at 9 a.m.: Public hearing and board meeting in the ADOT Administration Building Auditorium, 206 S. 17th Ave., Phoenix.

May 20 at 9 a.m.: Public hearing and board meeting in the City of Flagstaff Council Chambers, 211 W. Aspen Ave., Flagstaff.

June 17 at 9 a.m.: Board meeting in the City of Holbrook Council Chambers, 465 First Ave, Holbrook.

Read more at: azdot.gov/media/News

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