

Quarterly Newsletter



Spring 2019 | Issue 14 | Via Vista

WORK PROGRAM & TIP

AVAILABLE FOR YOUR COMMENTS!

The Sierra Vista MPO has developed their projected programs, plans and projects for the next fiscal year. Are you interested in what is planned for the regional transportation system over the next few years? Please come and join us at an Open House on June 18th at the Sierra Vista Public Works Bld. between 2:30 and 4:00 p.m. We would love to hear your ideas and share what we have planned to accomplish in the SVMPO region.

The SVMPO Work Program and 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program are available for your review and comments on the Sierra Vista MPO website: www.svmmpo.org

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Acronym Definitions

MPO: Metropolitan Planning Organization

SVMPO: Sierra Vista MPO

ADOT: Arizona Department of Transportation



SIERRA VISTA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

SVMPO OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, June 18th: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Sierra Vista Public Works Building

Training Conference Room

401 Giulio Cesare Ave, Sierra Vista, AZ

Are you interested in the future transportation plans for the greater Sierra Vista area?

Stop by the Sierra Vista MPO Open House on June 18th and share your ideas!

Learn about the programs, plans and projects that have been planned for the regional transportation network.

Review and Comment on next year's Transportation Improvement Program at the meeting or online at:

www.svmppo.org

The Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization is a regional policy and planning agency serving the City of Sierra Vista, the Town of Huachuca City and Cochise County in partnership with the Arizona State Department of Transportation. We share information and build consensus among our member jurisdictions on regional transportation plans and projects.

SVMPO FUNDING SUMMARY Fiscal Year 2019/2020:

Available Funds for Projects:
\$4,578,021

Approved Project Cost Estimates:
\$3,584,753

Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Approved
May 16, 2019

Available Funds for Planning:
\$510,940

Expended 1st, 2nd & 3rd Quarter:
\$109,613 (21.4%)

Unified Planning Work Program & Budget
Approved May 16th, 2019

SVMPO operates on a State Fiscal Year that runs from
July 1st to June 30th.

Funding is also adjusted on the Federal Fiscal Year that
runs from October 1st to September 30th.

The SVMPO has two types of projects: design or construction projects that are approved in the SVMPO Transportation Improvement Program, known as the TIP, and planning studies and regional activities approved in the SVMPO annual Work Program.

SVMPO ACTIVE PROJECTS

Pavement Condition Survey: This project is almost completed! The consultant team, Infrastructure Management Services, has created a software tool that includes data and imagery from all of the City of Sierra Vista's maintained roadways. A presentation and staff training on this tool will be held in the next few months but already the draft information is being used by Sierra Vista to prioritize maintenance activities for the roads in the worst condition and for roads where maintenance will allow deferring more expensive reconstruction activities until later. Anticipated completion: **August 2019**.

Adaptive Signal Control: This project is just beginning! The City of Sierra Vista is working with ADOT to provide real-time traffic signal alerts and signal timing adjustments with the newest in high-tech equipment and software programs. Anticipated completion: **October 2020**.

North Garden/Fry Bvd. Phase I Design: This project is designing specific improvements for portions of North Garden Ave. and the intersection with Fry. Blvd. The City of Sierra Vista is planning to contract with a design firm in the next few months. Contracting on the design phase was delayed in order to tighten up the needed scope of work in order to reduce design costs. Anticipated completion of design: **Summer of 2020**. Construction to begin in late 2020.



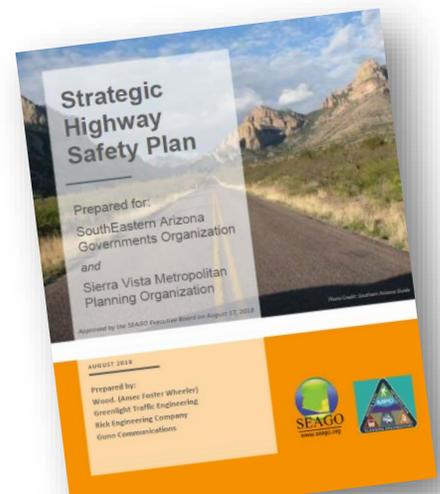
TRANSIT INVENTORY & CONDITION RESULTS

Vista Transit is one way the community can get around the City of Sierra Vista. Commuting to work, going to the store, or returning a book at the library; Vista Transit can provide transportation.

This April the SVMPO performed an inventory of the bus stops in Sierra Vista. Some of the things looked at were the overall condition of the stops, recording what was at the stop such as trashcans and shelters, and what condition the signs were.

There were minor maintenance needs, such as replacing the plastic signs and getting rid of some graffiti on the shelters and signs, identified. Overall, the Vista Transit bus stops are in good condition and provide a safe environment for riders to wait for their bus ride.

A presentation on these conditions has been made to the Vista Transit staff and will be shared with the SVMPO Board and City of Sierra Vista City Council. This information will also be used to update the Transit Asset Management Inventory Report: required documentation that keeps the City's transit system eligible for Federal Transit Administration funding. The SVMPO has been awarded \$128,399 in Federal Transit Administration funds for Fiscal Years 20 & 21 to help support regional transit activities like this bus stop inventory.



Read the **2018 Strategic Highway Safety Plan**,
online at www.svmppo.org

Safety Moment Stay Alive...Focus on the Drive

In the Sierra Vista MPO area the challenge to get everyone home from their journey safely is **not** the transportation infrastructure. It is us – the drivers – and the choices we make.

You may be aware that this year the Arizona state legislature passed a law banning cellphone use for talking, texting, browsing sites or watching video – unless your device is in hands-free mode. What you may not be aware of is that the Dept. of Transportation research shows that hands-free phone use is still a significant distraction to a driver.

How can you help? Pull over into a safe place or wait until you are at your destination to make phone calls. Your call can wait: paying attention to the road can't.

**Stay Alive...
Focus on Your Drive**



Route changes are being made to the
Vista Transit system.

Information about these changes can be found
on the City of Sierra Vista's website.

<https://www.sierravistaaz.gov/city-departments/transit/route-information/>



Public Participation is welcomed without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, and disability or family status. Persons that require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services should contact the SVMPO at 520.515.8525



2019 Committee Meetings

SVMPO Executive Board Meetings are held at the Sierra Vista City Hall: 1011 N. Coronado Drive, Sierra Vista, AZ at 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (June at 3:00 pm)

- **June 27th at 3:00 p.m.**; Sept. 19th and Nov. 21st.

Technical Advisory Committee Meetings are held at the Sierra Vista Public Works Bld: 401 Giulio Cesare Ave., Sierra Vista, AZ at 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

- June 18th; Sept 3rd and Nov 5th.

Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Subcommittee (BPAC) Meetings are held at the Sierra Vista Public Works Bld: 401 Giulio Cesare Ave, Sierra Vista, AZ at 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

- Aug. 26th and Oct 28th.

Public Meeting notices are posted in the lobby of City of Sierra Vista's Public Works Building: Pete Castro Center, located at 401 Giulio Cesare Avenue, Sierra Vista, Arizona, 85603. This location is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except legal holidays.

For up to date meeting information also visit www.svmppo.org/calendar.

Notes from the Administrator's Desk

About twenty years ago, in a public meeting about long-range transportation plans for southeastern Arizona, I was asked by a young man when he would be able to drive his own car. He was blind, one of about thirty students from the Arizona Deaf & Blind School attending this presentation. I told him then...probably not in my lifetime, but in his.

I was wrong. Driverless vehicles are here now and somewhere there is that young man eagerly waiting for his first set of car keys. In April of every year, roadway engineers gather at the Roads and Streets Conference, to learn about new innovations in the field and share best practices with other agencies and states. This year's opening session brought a panel together of leaders in the field of autonomous vehicles: Toyota, TuSimple and Waymo. When they said that they would be rolling off driverless vehicles through factory lines within ten years the reaction from the crowd of engineers was an unmistakable sense that we, the industry and our roadway systems, were not ready for the 21st century technology.

Regional agencies like your Sierra Vista MPO will be working to get ready! Driverless vehicles have the potential to change how we travel in a way that hasn't been seen since the first Model T's rolled off the factory lines in the early 1800's. Interested in this topic? We will be investigating the opportunities and challenges that this travel mode might bring to our region in our upcoming Long-Range Transportation Plan effort in the next two years. We hope you will join with us in the conversation!



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