



# SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization

*Serving our member governments and their constituents since 1972*

## RESOLUTION NO. 2021-03

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA GOVERNMENTS ORGANIZATION ESTABLISHING A LIST OF PRIORITY TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS FOR THE SEAGO REGION, AND URGING THE ARIZONA LEGISLATURE TO FUND THE PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE RTAC RURAL REGIONAL PRIORITY PROJECT LIST**

**WHEREAS**, the SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) is the transportation planning organization for the non-urbanized area of Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the quality of Arizona's transportation infrastructure is vital to public safety, economic prosperity, environmental health, quality of life and cost of living; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Transportation currently assesses the investment backlog for the Nation's highways and bridges at \$756 billion while ADOT's current long range plan estimates the state's unmet needs at \$30.5 billion, equating to only 43% of the needs being met; and

**WHEREAS**, the Arizona funding gap is continually expanding and currently equates to at least \$1.22 billion a year every year in under-investment on the state system alone; and

**WHEREAS**, Arizona's local road networks face comparable shortfalls, estimated at \$2.2 billion just for the maintenance of existing county roads; and

**WHEREAS**, Arizona's state and local road networks are heavily dependent on state fuel tax revenue which has not been raised in nearly 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, the Arizona Legislature has increased transportation investment through earmarking one-time State General Fund revenues for specific projects; and

**WHEREAS**, such earmarking has funded critically needed highway and road projects but bypasses the established programming processes that prioritize needs and maximize the development of the best investment choices based on available revenue, processes that are increasingly important due to the magnitude of the under-investment levels, and

**WHEREAS**, by working collaboratively through the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC), Arizona's rural transportation planning organizations, have the ability to collectively offer a compromise approach by developing a list of specific projects for earmarking including those that have been vetted and determined to be the top priorities for Greater Arizona; and

### **SEAGO Member Entities**

#### *Cochise County*

*Benson*

*Bisbee*

*Douglas*

*Huachuca City*

*Sierra Vista*

*Tombstone*

*Willcox*

#### *Graham County*

*Pima*

*Safford*

*San Carlos*

*Apache Tribe*

*Thatcher*

#### *Greenlee County*

*Clifton*

*Duncan*

#### *Santa Cruz County*

*Nogales*

*Patagonia*

### **SEAGO Main Office**

#### **Administration Community and Economic Dev. Transportation**

*1403 W. Hwy 92*

*Bisbee, AZ 85603*

*520-432-5301*

*520-432-5858 Fax*

### **Area Agency on Aging Office**

*300 Collins Road*

*Bisbee, AZ 85603*

*520-432-5301*

*520-432-9168 Fax*

**[www.seago.org](http://www.seago.org)**

**WHEREAS**, SEAGO wishes to collaborate with the RTAC by formally submitting a list of priority transportation projects for the non-urbanized portion of the SEAGO region to be included in the RTAC Rural Regional Priority List; and

**WHEREAS**, considering the \$320 million appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2022 State Budget, the \$50 million sought for the RTAC Rural Regional Priority List will likely represent only a small fraction of the available funding, which provides the Arizona Legislature with ample opportunity to fund additional projects statewide.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the SEAGO Executive Board hereby establishes the attached list of Priority Transportation Projects for the SEAGO region for inclusion in the RTAC Rural Regional Priority List; and

**THAT**, the SEAGO Executive Board urges the Arizona Legislature to enact legislation appropriating State General Fund revenues for the projects included in the RTAC Rural Regional Priority Project List.

Passed and adopted by the SEAGO Executive Board on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.



Michael Laws,  
Executive Board Chair



Randy Heiss,  
Executive Director

**PRIORITY TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS FOR THE SEAGO REGION**

<b>Project Sponsor</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Local Contribution</b>	<b>Recommended Funding</b>
Graham County	Safford Bryce Road – Talley Wash Crossing	\$941,669	\$210,462	\$731,207
City of Nogales	Industrial Park Drive Reconstruction Project	\$1,880,177	\$108,880	\$1,566,815
San Carlos Apache Tribe	Peridot Siding Road (BIA Route 103) Pavement Overlay Project	\$785,550	\$75,000	\$710,550
Santa Cruz County	Ruby Road Bridge at Potrero Creek Replacement	\$13,631,315	\$4,500,000	\$1,517,304
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$17,238,711</b>	<b>\$4,894,342</b>	<b>\$4,525,876</b>