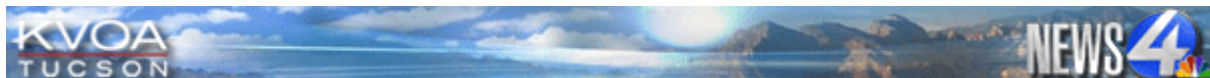


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Ed Tribble reports Stimulus money to create jobs in AZ

Posted: Feb 17, 2009 05:19 PM MST

Far from the roar of traffic, Juliana Martinez tries to get a new job.

The former mine worker has been out of work for three months.

"It's been really tough," she says.

But pretty soon instead of pushing papers -- she'd rather start pushing dirt.

"I have earthmoving experience, motor graders, forklifts," she says.

Federal stimulus money is en route to Arizona. ADOT will get \$500 million to fix roads and bridges.

It's expected to create 17,000 jobs.

"This is an opportunity to create jobs. But also improves our infrastructure, our transportation," ADOT spokeswoman Linda Ritter says.

The biggest project will be more widening of I-10 from two lanes to three for a 16 mile stretch between here and Phoenix.

The city of Tucson is expecting \$22 to \$50 million dollars which will fix existing streets. The city expects to create 35 jobs for every million spent.

"My crews are out there filling potholes one right after another when in fact, we need to do a complete pavement rehabilitation effort," TDOT Director Jim Glock says.

For Juliana, it's work she's interested in doing.

"It's a good plan for the stimulus package to help our construction area," she says.



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