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## Forty-one projects approved statewide

PHOENIX (AP) - The state Transportation Board on Friday approved using federal stimulus funding for dozens of highway projects across Arizona, including adding lanes to two interstate highways on the outskirts of the Phoenix area.

The state will get \$350 million in stimulus money for highway work, and the Transportation Board allocated roughly \$130 million of that for Maricopa County, \$46 million for Pima County and \$175 million for the other 13 counties.

Reduced from a list of 100 projects, a total of 41 projects statewide were authorized for stimulus funding. The 41 include five in Maricopa County, eight in Pima County and 28 elsewhere, the Arizona Department of Transportation said.

Maricopa County work includes adding one new lane in each direction on I-17 south of Anthem and on I-10 west of Phoenix and widening 10 miles of U.S. 60/Grand Avenue between Loop 303 and 99th Avenue.

Pima County projects include widening a segment of State Route 86 and reconstructing I-10's Marsh Station interchange.

Projects elsewhere in the state include repaving of sections of U.S. 60 in the Miami area, State Route 69 between I-17 and Big Bug and I-10 near Benson.

The stimulus program is intended to spur the economy and create jobs, and ADOT said the projects would create more than 13,000 jobs statewide.

Gov. Jan Brewer said she looked forward to certifying the projects for federal funding.

“Arizonans will return to work and our roads will get the improvements they need,” Brewer said in a statement released by ADOT.