



## News

# ADOT to spend \$16.5 million of stimulus in county

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By Laura Ory  
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SIERRA VISTA — Four Cochise County highway projects were chosen by the State Transportation Board for federal stimulus funding Friday.

Three pavement preservation projects, two on Interstate 10 and one on Highway 80 in Tombstone, and road widening for turn lanes on U.S. 191 at High Street, made the list of 41 Arizona Department of Transportation projects.

ADOT had more than 100 shovel-ready projects that had been considered for stimulus funding, said ADOT spokeswoman Linda Ritter.

ADOT expects to receive about \$350 million in stimulus funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The estimated funding split — \$130 million for the Maricopa County, \$46 million for Pima County and \$175 million for the 13 remaining counties in the state — is based on a state spending formula for federal and state transportation funds.

The chosen projects had to be ready for construction and qualified as system preservation, rehabilitation, replacement or new construction to enhance safety and capacity, Ritter said.

ADOT plans to begin advertising for bids this week and construction is expected to begin in about 60 to 90 days.

“We’ll have construction on some by this summer,” she said.

All projects are expected to be completed within three years and about 13,000 jobs are expected to be created statewide from the spending.

The project list will go to Gov. Jan Brewer for final approval.

## Projects in Cochise County

- Benson: Pavement preservation of eastbound lanes on Interstate 10 from eastern area of Benson to Johnson Road. Estimated cost: \$11 million.
  - Bowie: Pavement preservation of eastbound lanes on Interstate 10 from Luzena to Bowie. Estimated cost: \$3 million.
  - Sunsites: Road widening for turn lanes on U.S. 191 in Sunsites at High Street. Estimated cost: \$595,000.
  - Tombstone: Pavement preservation on state Highway 80 in Tombstone. Estimated cost: \$1.95 million.
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Herald/Review reporter Laura Ory can be reached at 515-4683 or by e-mail at [laura.ory@svherald.com](mailto:laura.ory@svherald.com).

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