



TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

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MISSION

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee advocates for policies and funding for the development of and access to infrastructure improvements, associated maintenance, and modern technologies that create a dependable infrastructure that keep Arizonans employed and help make Arizona attractive to business. The Committee promotes a multi-modal ground and civilian/military air transportation system to support Arizona's growing population, economy, military bases and facilitate intra-state, interstate, and cross border commerce. The Committee supports safety measures to protect motorists and passengers, regulatory reforms, and flexibility to ensure supply chain continuity, and policies and regulations that make possible new and emerging modes of human transit such as ridesharing and the safe development and deployment of autonomous vehicles.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PROTECT DEDICATED TRANSPORTATION FUNDING AND INCREASE INVESTMENT IN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE: Invest wisely in statewide highway and road construction to facilitate commerce and reduce congestion. Ensure that adequate, and additional, dedicated public funding is available for current and future transportation needs. Funding mechanisms should emphasize a “user pays” model that adequately and holistically captures appropriate revenues through changes to the existing registration fees or fuel taxes. Ensure that the Highway Users Revenue Fund (HURF) and the State Aviation Fund are used only for uses authorized by law and support the repayment of past sweeps of dedicated transportation funds.

PROTECT COMMUNITIES' AIRPORT ASSETS AND SUSTAIN AIR TRANSPORTATION: Support efforts to preserve and further develop the state's commercial air service industry and encourage efficient and safe passenger and cargo operations. Civil and military airports and the surrounding landowners should take efforts to minimize impacts on one another so that all legally available uses may be enjoyed without loss of private property rights, economic value, and appropriate utilization of airport assets.





FACILITATE BORDER TRANSPORTATION:

Improve efficiency, modernize technology, add more lanes for traffic, and increase hours of operation at ports of entry along the Arizona-Sonora border to facilitate tourism, legal labor mobility and the movement of safe and secure international trade. Ensure that cross-border commercial freight traffic is not disrupted by pandemic-related health protocols.

SUPPORT COST EFFECTIVE UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND ENSURE FAIR AND CONSISTENT POLICIES FOR UTILITY RIGHTS-OF-WAY USERS:

Ensure agencies with oversight authority of rights-of-ways develop and enforce policies that regulate rights-of-way users in a fair, expeditious and consistent manner. Advocate for policies and practices that remove barriers that would otherwise hamper improvements and maintenance and place the burden of cost directly upon both ratepayers and taxpayers.

UTILIZE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOLL ROADS IN ARIZONA THAT MEET SPECIFIC CRITERIA: Use Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) as a mechanism to finance and develop critical infrastructure projects that are mutually beneficial to government and the private sector by providing fair risk-sharing, accountability, and reward. Support consumer-friendly, cost-effective toll road development in Arizona where appropriate for new capacity on roads that otherwise would not be constructed or expanded. Support will be conditional on meeting this and other criteria, including ensuring strict financial accountability to road users, taxpayers, design engineers and contractors. Oppose conversion of existing road lanes to tolls.

PRIORITIZE PROJECTS TO ENSURE

UNINTERRUPTED COMMERCE: To the extent possible, promote allocation of funding to high priority structurally deficient and/or obsolete infrastructure associated with key freight corridors to avoid potential disruption of commerce. Advocate for the passage of long-term federal transportation funding that provides Arizona with additional funding and protects its fair share of funds for roads, highways, airport and other transportation needs distributed transparently, advances with technology and with results-based accountability. Support the prioritization of funding based on congestion, safety and goods movement, and support funding for projects that meet these criteria and are properly authorized.

STRENGTHEN RAIL OPERATIONS IN

ARIZONA: Support planning efforts that will enhance the efficiency and convenience with which goods and people are moved through the state.

SUPPORT REASONABLE AND FAIR INTERPRETATION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE CODE: Advocate for the uniform application of the commercial vehicle code through all law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona.

SUPPORT STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT

CONSOLIDATION: Support consolidating all transportation related law enforcement responsibilities into a single state agency at the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

