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February 2, 2017

In Reply Refer To:

010-E(210)A
TRACS No. 010 PM 260 H7825 01L
Interstate 10, Junction Interstate 19 to Kolb Road and
State Route 210, Golf Links Road to Interstate 10
Cooperating Agency Invitation

Mike Williams, Manager
Airports District Office
PHX-600
Federal Aviation Administration
3800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1025
Phoenix, Arizona 85012

Dear Mr. Williams:

Re: Invitation to Become Cooperating Agency

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), is initiating a Design Concept Report (DCR) and an Environmental Assessment (EA) study for proposed Interstate 10 (I-10) and State Route 210 (SR 210) planned improvements. The project limits on I-10 extend from the Interstate 19 (I-19) junction eastbound to Kolb Road, and the SR 210 limits extend from Golf Links Road to a future planned connection with I-10 (refer to Figures 1 and 2). The purpose of the proposed improvements to I-10 and the extension of SR 210 to a direct connection with I-10 are to address deficiencies in the interstate highway system and provide motorists with an alternate route into Tucson’s business district.

Your agency has been identified as one that may have an interest in the project based on the proximity of SR 210 and I-10 to the Tucson International Airport. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and our agency’s environmental policies and procedures, an EA will be prepared to describe the need for the proposed action and to evaluate alternatives and their environmental impacts. The EA will also document all agency coordination and public involvement. Figures 3a and 3b provide the location of build alternatives to be considered along with a “no build” alternative. With this letter, we extend your agency an invitation to become a cooperating agency with the FHWA in the development of the EA for the subject project. This designation does not imply that your agency supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

FHWA also requests the participation of the Federal Aviation Administration as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the Draft EA and Final EA, in accordance with 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality’s (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provision of NEPA.
Pursuant to 40 CFR 1501.6 and 23 CFR 771.111(d), upon request of the lead agency, any other Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law shall be invited to be a cooperating agency. A cooperating agency shall carry out the obligations of that agency under other applicable laws concurrently and in conjunction with the review required under NEPA, unless doing so would impair the ability of the Federal agency to conduct needed analysis or otherwise carry out those obligations. Also, the cooperating agency shall formulate and implement administrative policy and procedural mechanisms to enable the agency to complete the environmental review process in a timely, coordinated, and environmentally responsible manner. Finally, each cooperating agency shall:

- Participate in the NEPA process at the earliest possible time;
- Participate in the scoping process;
- Participate in coordination meetings, and/or field visits, as appropriate;
- Timely reviews and comments on the NEPA document that explains the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, anticipated impacts and mitigation; and
- Assume, upon request of the lead agency, responsibility for developing information and preparing environmental analyses, including portions of the EA in which the cooperating agency has special expertise.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1501.6(c) and 23 CFR 771.111(d), a cooperating agency may, in response to a lead agency’s request for assistance in preparing the EA, reply that other program commitments preclude any involvement or degree of involvement requested in the action that is the subject of the EA. A copy of this reply shall be submitted to the CEQ.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or our agencies’ respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EA, please contact Tremaine Wilson, FHWA Environmental Coordinator, at 602-382-8970 or Tremaine.Wilson@dot.gov.

In addition, FHWA and ADOT invite you to attend the Public Scoping meeting that will be held on February 15, 2017 at the El Pueblo Regional Center, 101 West Irvington Road in Tucson, between 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., with a formal presentation starting at 6:15 p.m.

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

S. Petty
Division Administrator

Enclosures:
Figure 1. Project location
Figure 2. Project vicinity
Figure 3a. System Alternative I
Figure 3b. System Alternative IV

cc:
Dave Kessler, FAA Environmental Specialist
AHeier
TWilson
RPerez, ADOT Project Manager
SKarasz, ADOT Environmental Planner
Brad Olbert, Jacobs Engineering
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March 8, 2017

Karla Petty
Division Manager
Federal Highways Administration
4000 N Central Ave
Suite 1500
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Dear Ms. Petty:

Thank you for the invitation to become a Cooperating Agency for the proposed Interstate 10 and State Route 210 improvement project. In reviewing the scope of this project, we are declining to become a cooperating agency because the project, as currently described, doesn’t appear to have a direct impact on Tucson International Airport (TUS) or other airports. However, going forward if there are any substantial changes to the project alignment or scope of work that may potentially impact TUS or other airports please notify us so we can adequately evaluate the changes.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mike N Williams
Manager, Phoenix Airports District Office

Cc: Kyler Erhard, PHX ADO
December 26, 2018

In Reply Refer To:

010-E(210)S
TRACS No. 010 PM 260 H7825 01L
Interstate 10, Junction Interstate 19 to Kolb Road and
State Route 210, Golf Links Road to Interstate 10
Cooperating Agency Invitation

Colonel Michael R. Drowley, Commander
Davis-Monthan Air Force Base
355th Fighter Wing
3405 South 5th Street
Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona 85707

Dear Colonel Drowley:

Re: Invitation to Become Cooperating Agency

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), is initiating a Design Concept Report and an Environmental Assessment (EA) study for proposed Interstate 10 (I-10) and State Route 210 (SR 210) planned improvements. The project limits on I-10 extend from the Interstate 19 (I-19) junction eastbound to Kolb Road, and the SR 210 limits extend from Golf Links Road to a future planned connection with I-10 (refer to Figures 1 and 2). The purpose of the proposed improvements to I-10 and the extension of SR 210 to a direct connection with I-10 are to address deficiencies in the interstate highway system, and to provide motorists with an alternate route into Tucson’s business district.

Your agency has been identified as one that may have an interest in the project based on previous coordination during the project’s Feasibility Report phase, the proximity of SR 210 and I-10 to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base (DMAFB), and the potential for an encroachment or right-of-way needs from DMAFB. Figures 3a and 3b provides the location of build alternatives that are being considered along with a “no build” alternative. With this letter, we extend to your agency an invitation to become a cooperating agency with the FHWA in the development of the EA for the subject project in accordance with 40 Code of Federal Regulations part 1501.6. This designation does not imply that your agency supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to 23 United States Code (U.S.C.) 139, cooperating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency’s role in the development of the project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- Provide meaningful and early input on defining the purpose and need, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the alternatives analysis.
• Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews, as appropriate.

• Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation no later than January 31, 2019. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 139, any Federal agency that chooses to decline the invitation to be a cooperating agency must specifically state in its response that it:

• Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project;
• Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and
• Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or our agencies’ respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EA, please contact Ammon Heier, FHWA Area Engineer, by phone at 602-382-8972 or by email at Ammon.Heier@dot.gov; or Tremaine Wilson, FHWA Environmental Coordinator, by phone at 602-382-8970 or by email at Tremaine.Wilson@dot.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this project.

Sincerely,


Karla S. Petty
Division Administrator

Enclosures

cc:
B. Kacey Carter, 355th Civil Engineering Squadron
Michael Toriello, 355th Civil Engineering Squadron
AHeier
TWilson
TDewan ADOT Project Manager
SKarasz, ADOT Environmental Planner
Brad Olbert, Jacobs Engineering
24 June 2019

Mr. Tremaine Wilson
Environmental Coordinator
Federal Highway Administration, Arizona Division
4000 North Central Avenue
Suite 1500
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-3500

MEMORANDUM FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA), ARIZONA DIVISION

Dear Mr. Tremaine Wilson

Re: 010-E(210)S, TRACS No. 010 PM 260 H7825 01L; Interstate 10, Junction Interstate 19 to Kolb Road and State Route 210, Golf Links Road to Interstate 10 Cooperating Agency Invitation

1. In response to the FHWA’s invitation dated 26 December 2018, to become a cooperating agency, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base does choose to participate as a cooperating agency to the referenced project.

2. The 355 Civil Engineer Squadron, Environmental Element, will provide any relevant environmental data, surveys, and information that has the potential to impact this project or any alternatives identified therein.

3. Questions regarding any potential impacts to natural, cultural, or historical properties within the identified project alternatives can be directed to Mr. Kevin Wakefield at (520) 228-4350 or kevin.wakefield@us.af.mil.

CHRISTOPHER L. BREWSTER, PE
Chief, Environmental Compliance
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