

The INSIDE LANE

A newsletter for employees of the Arizona Department of Transportation

NOVEMBER 2017

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4



New video follows ADOT biologists
on quest to relocate lizards living
near Loop 202 South Mountain

PAGE
9



◀ All must enroll for
2018 health benefits
PAGE 3



◀ Safety Stand Down Day
PAGE 5



◀ Domestic Violence
Awareness Month
PAGE 11

ADOT

**LEADERSHIP
MATTERS**

H! My name is Wendy Brazier and I am the chief human resources officer for ADOT. I have been with the state for four years. I retired from the United States Air Force in 2012 after proudly serving for 26 years. My husband is also retired Air Force, and we have been married 29 years and have one daughter. I have many wonderful memories and exciting travel experiences during my military career. Some of my favorite are riding an incentive flight in an F-16 Fighting Falcon over Spain, riding on a camel in Turkey, meeting former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld at the Pentagon, reenlisting with the USAF Thunderbirds, deploying to Afghanistan, and spending family vacations in Germany, Paris, London, and Rome. I am honored to have served my country and now the citizens of Arizona.

You may not know this, but I am actually an Arizona Department of Administration employee charged with directing the HR and civil rights activities for ADOT's satellite HR office. HR includes recruiting, employee relations, benefits, operations and the CDL Drug and Alcohol program. Civil Rights is responsible for ensuring the agency is compliant with laws governing affirmative action, nondiscrimination in employment and services to the public, and accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

I have been fortunate to participate in all aspects of both ADOA and ADOT's Continuous Improvement learning and on how to deploy the Arizona Management System with regards to the "people systems." It is exciting to see efficiencies gained through streamlined processes that eliminate waste all across the agency. The people are the cornerstone of ADOT and for the HR/EO team, "Connecting AZ. Moving AZ. Making Transportation Personal" represents optimizing today's talent for tomorrow's successes. We do this by promoting respect, diversity and quality for ADOT's workforce and the citizens who use ADOT services.

I'd be remiss if I didn't at least take this opportunity to remind everyone about the upcoming Benefits Open Enrollment. To make sure you and your families don't lose benefits coverage on Jan. 1, 2018, make sure you go into YES and take action during the enrollment period from Oct. 30 to Nov. 17, 2017. More information on open enrollment can be found in this edition of The Inside Lane! ☐



*Wendy Brazier
Chief Human Resources Officer*

The INSIDE LANE

ADOT DIRECTOR

John S. Halikowski

DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR POLICY

Kevin Biesty

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Timothy Tait

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Kathy Boyle, Assistant

Communications Director

Angela De Welles, Senior

Communications Specialist

Michelle Fink, Administrative Support

Danelle Weber, Senior

Communications Specialist

Randy Sasaki, Graphics Project Manager

John Waldrat, Graphic Designer

Elena Diaz, Graphic Designer

EDITORIAL BOARD

Eddie Edison, HR

Lt. Gary McCarthy, ECD

Gregory Byres, MPD

Lt. James Warriner, ECD
James Windsor, TSMO
Jennifer Bower Richards, MVD
Larry Clark, MVD
Lisa Danka, FMS
Mj Vincent, OCI
Steve Boschen, IDO
Ted Howard, ASD

The Inside Lane is published monthly for the employees of the Arizona Department of Transportation by ADOT Communications.

Address all comments and suggestions to InsideLane@azdot.gov.

A web version of this newsletter can be found on ADOTNet or at azdot.gov/InsideLane.

© 2017 Arizona Department of Transportation

17-314

Share your best cover shot

Do you snap shots that show off the scenic side of transportation in Arizona? Share them with us and we might put your photograph on the next cover of The Inside Lane.

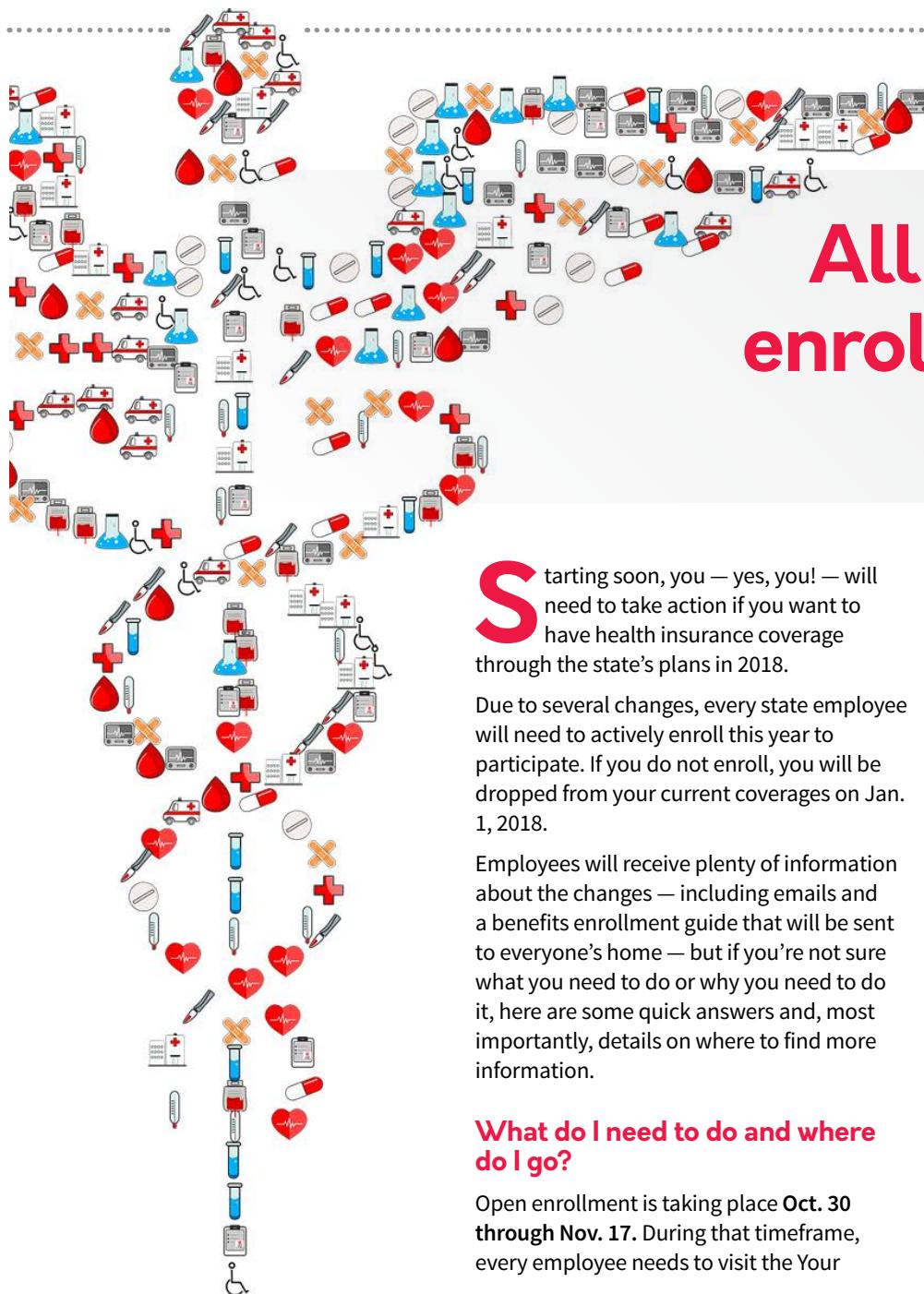
It can be a great picture of an MVD office, a beautiful highway shot or even an artsy photo of construction materials.

Whatever the subject, the photo should highlight some aspect of the work happening here at ADOT.

Submit your original, digital photographs to InsideLane@azdot.gov in JPEG format (no larger than 10MB). Along with the photo, please provide a brief description and your name/title.



This chuckwalla is one of many that were relocated by ADOT and partnering agencies. You can read more about the project on page 9. ADOT Video Producer John Dougherty snapped the shot.



All employees must actively enroll for 2018 health benefits

Open enrollment starts Oct. 30

Starting soon, you — yes, you! — will need to take action if you want to have health insurance coverage through the state's plans in 2018.

Due to several changes, every state employee will need to actively enroll this year to participate. If you do not enroll, you will be dropped from your current coverages on Jan. 1, 2018.

Employees will receive plenty of information about the changes — including emails and a benefits enrollment guide that will be sent to everyone's home — but if you're not sure what you need to do or why you need to do it, here are some quick answers and, most importantly, details on where to find more information.

What do I need to do and where do I go?

Open enrollment is taking place Oct. 30 through Nov. 17. During that timeframe, every employee needs to visit the Your

Employee Services (YES) website, www.yes.az.gov, select the "open enrollment" link and follow the instructions on the site to choose the coverage they want. Employees should also verify any beneficiaries at this time.

Employees can visit www.benefitoptions.az.gov to find details and dates for statewide benefit expos. The benefits enrollment guide, which has been mailed to each employee's home, also can be found on the Benefit Options site.

Pro tip: After you update and save your 2018 elections, be sure to print your election page.

"That will help if there's a glitch in the system and elections don't save or if there are any questions about the enrollment," says ADOT HR Personnel Analyst Erika Torres. "Doing that has helped people in the past."

Are costs increasing?

Yes. Premiums and copays are increasing in general, due to rising health care costs. Refer to your benefits enrollment guide for more

specific information on how the cost increase will impact your paycheck. Employees should note that copays will no longer be required for routine preventive care — many routine screenings and immunizations will now be included in healthcare coverage. For a list of all preventive care services covered, see the [FAQ guide](#) on the Benefit Options site.

Do I really need to re-enroll if I'm already enrolled in benefits?

YES! Due to the changes, everyone must actively enroll by 5 p.m. Nov. 17.

I have more questions. Where can I find answers specific to my situation?

If you can't find the answer [online](#) or in the benefits enrollment guide, employees can send questions concerning open enrollment to BenefitIssues@azdot.gov.

~Angela De Welles, Senior Communications Specialist



Repository of Online Archived Documents (ROAD) offers easy access to record drawings

Fas long as Arizona has had roads, there have been engineers to design them. Designing and maintaining roadways requires the production of engineering plans. Even though Arizona is one of the younger states, it is still over a century old. That's a lot of plan sets!

When any road or construction project is constructed, it has a record drawing — the final, official drawing of the project that gets saved and archived. Most of those drawings are still in paper form and have been managed by Engineering Records, which was part of ADOT's Facilities Management Group in Phoenix. Record drawings date back to as early as the 1930s.

Anyone is able to request a copy of a record drawing, but because they are all in paper form, our internal staff, consultants and even the general public would need to travel to Phoenix during normal business hours to access Engineering Records and would usually have to pay to get copies. Even ADOT employees working in districts outside of the Phoenix area would need to travel to Phoenix when looking for record drawings. To put it mildly, getting copies of record drawings was cumbersome.

However, that process has become much easier thanks to the new Repository of Online Archived Documents (ROAD). The ROAD portal is the result of a joint effort between ADOT's Information Technology Group, Infrastructure Delivery and Operations, and Facilities Management. The record drawings are uploaded and maintained in the ROAD portal by the ADOT Project Resource Office.

Electronic submittals to ADOT not only save time and money, but will be preserved and electronically available for generations to come.

After 10 months of scanning record drawings into digital format, ROAD is now a "one-stop-shop" for anyone seeking a record drawing of a project, whether it was completed in 1950 or 2015. The ROAD portal is fully searchable and accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week using any device, including computers, tablets and even cell phones with internet access.

"This portal offers easy access to all records," said Project Resource Office Manager Lisa Pounds. "It ensures that all our record drawings

are accessible for our customers and we are leveraging the technology we have to save time and money, making everyone's life a little easier."

There are still a few kinks to work out, of course. With so many record drawings and many of them coming from decades ago, changing highway numbers, determining project locations and naming conventions present a unique challenge. For example, record drawings from Route 66 can now be found under the current mileposts for Interstate 40. The record drawings have not been changed or altered in any way, but just renamed to current roadway identifiers that make it much easier to locate a record drawing in the ROAD portal.

To make the record drawings more efficiently searchable, someone has to go through each and every one to identify the location and ensure all of the paper copies are uploaded to the ROAD portal. Transportation Engineering Specialist James Hampshire, a 48-year employee of Central District Construction, is that someone. He has been working for six months to bring his personal wealth of subject-matter knowledge to the project, and the portal would not be nearly as functional as it is without his efforts.

The next phase of the ROAD portal project is quality control to make sure every record drawing is accounted for. This part of the project could take up to six months, but in the end, ADOT will have a state-of-the-art portal that contains all the record drawings from state projects and local projects that ADOT administered. These records will be easily accessible and available to the public.

The ROAD portal is accessible through the ADOT main web page (just select the ROAD icon on the left side of the page) or by going to road.azdot.gov. Questions, comments or help with accessing the ROAD portal can be found through the Project Resource Office by calling 602.712.7015 or emailing RecordDrawings@azdot.gov. Information and guidelines regarding the development of record drawings can also be found at the above contact information.

A video about how to use the ROAD portal is coming up, so keep an eye on the ADOTNet homepage. ■

~Dani Weber, Senior Communications Specialist



Safety Stand Down Day attended by employees statewide

ON OCT. 5, hundreds of ADOT employees gathered in offices, conference rooms and maintenance yards across the state to focus on one thing: safety.

The 25 separate meetings were all part of the 2017 Safety Stand Down Day, an event for transportation division employees that centered around two different presentations. One covered internal emergency actions, including fires, evacuations and medical emergencies, and the other focused on traffic safety, providing details on Traffic Incident Management, winter driving, pedestrian safety and personal preparedness.

Many ADOT employees took on the role of presenter, including Resident

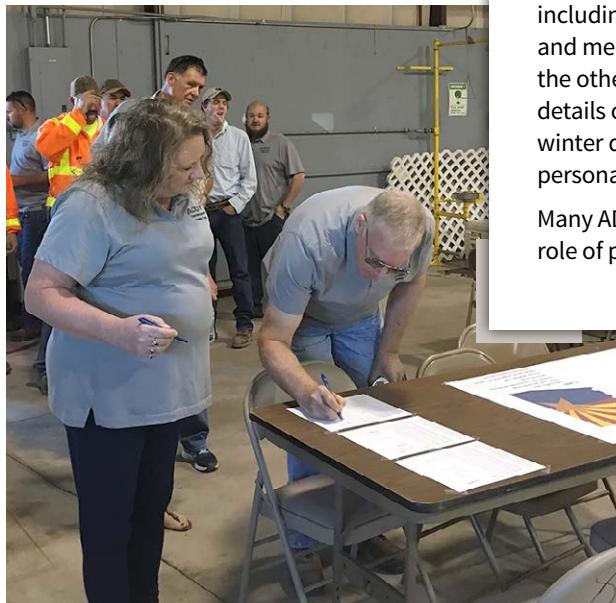
Engineer Micah Hannam, who shared the internal emergency actions presentation to Tempe landscape, construction and maintenance units.

"We want everyone to go home safely each day," Hannam said after the event. "It's good to get everyone together on an occasion like this."

Highway Operations Supervisor Carlos Parra also presented to the group. He said that talking about safety and the real dangers associated with working on the state's highway system provides a wake-up call for employees.

"It's a good reminder," he said. "Sometimes we can all get a little complacent, or we forget the basics." ■

~Angela De Welles, Senior Communications Specialist



As these photos show, employees participated in the 2017 Safety Stand Down Day at events in locations throughout the state.

Clockwise from top left: The ADOT Traffic Operations Center in Phoenix; the ADOT Auditorium in Phoenix; Prescott; HRDC; ADOT's Flagstaff District; Kingman and Tempe.



All Safety Stand Down Day participants, including the Mesa Roadway Unit, learned about internal emergency actions.

Staying safe in the workplace

Do you know what to do?

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS can strike without warning, which is why being prepared is so critical.

That was the lesson for hundreds of ADOT employees who attended the recent Safety Stand Down Day. One of the day's presentations was on internal emergency actions. It focused on safety in the workplace and included a refresher on what to do when the unexpected happens.

Here's a look at the top takeaways...

Know where to find emergency guidelines and plans

"The biggest thing employees need to know is, if something happens, what's your exit route and where do you need to go," said ADOT's Occupational Safety Administrator Robert Stolz.

Stolz was one of many around the state who presented the information to employees during the Safety Stand Down Day. He explained that employees should be familiar with the agency's Emergency Action Guidelines, which can be found posted in ADOT buildings and on the [ADOTNet homepage](#). Building-specific emergency action plans also are valuable and include evacuation plans, meeting spots and the names of building emergency coordinators and floor wardens.

The INSIDE

LANE

If employees don't know where to find the information, or aren't aware of who their building emergency coordinator is, they should ask their supervisor, Stolz said.

Training is available

The presentation also pointed toward the many computer-based training opportunities that are safety-related and available through the [ADOT Learning Center](#). From fire safety to how to handle violent intruders and suspicious mail, many topics are covered. While some of the courses are mandatory, others are not. Stolz said they're all beneficial and employees can expect to see even more topics in the coming months.

Slips, trips and falls are the biggest cause of injuries for ADOT employees

To reduce the risk, employees are encouraged to avoid distractions (no texting while walking), use the railing on stairs and wear the proper shoes. A new, mandatory computer-based training course was recently developed to raise awareness and prevent injury. Employees can access the course from the ADOT Learning Center by navigating to "ADOT Online Training." From there, the course can be found under the "Safety Awareness and Internal Emergency Actions" tab.

Reporting a safety or health concern

Stolz says the biggest challenge is finding potential safety hazards before there is an incident. If employees notice dangers in the workplace, they are encouraged to report it to Safety and Risk Management. There's even an [online form](#) available through ADOTNet that makes reporting easy. Find the form on the Safety and Risk Management page.

For even more information about safety in the workplace, check out the [Safety and Risk Management page on ADOTNet](#).

~ Angela De Welles, Senior Communications Specialist

WINNER

WINNER!

We had a great response to last month's ADOT Jumble drawn by Graphic Designer John Waldrat! Many of you solved the puzzle and submitted your answers, but there can only be one winner. Congratulations to Bobby Owens, an administrative assistant with MVD Compliance, whose name was selected from a random draw of entries. Internal Communications Manager Kathy Boyle awarded Owens earlier this month with a copy of the Arizona Highways publication, "Arizona Wild and Free."



ADOT JUMBLE

Answers:

1. License
2. Permit
3. Service Arizona
4. Authorized Third Party

Final answer is:

Driven Crazy



The State Employee Charitable Campaign kicked off at the beginning of October with an event in Phoenix.

Michelle Fink, ADOT Communications

Opportunities for charity through ADOT

FOR ADOT EMPLOYEES, service is more than just a job. As hurricanes wracked the coasts of other states earlier this year, individuals still stood up to send aid. And as the rains subsided, even more opportunities to help those in need presented themselves with the State Employee Charity Campaign kickoff in October. With the holiday season right around the bend, ADOT employees will step up again to help families make ends meet.

After Hurricane Harvey hit Houston, Midwest Food Bank accepted donations of household items, personal hygiene items, nonperishable food and anything else that could help survivors.

"I live very close to the food bank," Administrative Services Officer Carolyn Harmon said. "I sent an email out to our Multimodal Planning Division asking if they would be interested in giving goods or monetary donations to this organization, and I would gather and drop off donations to the food bank."

The employees at MPD were very interested, and from Sept. 15 to 22, they collected cash and a whole pile of needed items, including diapers and wipes, toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, dish soap, household spray cleaners, facial tissue, air fresheners, bleach powder and cleaners,



antibacterial cleaners, and all-purpose cleaners.

"I was happy that our group was able to make a little difference," Harmon said. "Midwest Food Bank was also very thankful for our help."

And the opportunities to keep helping families in need have not run out. The State Employee Charitable Campaign kicked off at the beginning of October to give state employees a centralized effort to give to hundreds of different charities all over the state and country. SECC partners with charities from the Make-a-Wish Foundation to the American Heart Association and benefits people both in Arizona and all over the world.

If you missed this year's kickoff, don't worry! You can still participate in the campaign by going to the [SECC donation page](#) and pledging whatever amount you want to give. If you want to keep your generosity local, ADOT's annual Adopt an Angel program is about to get started.

For ADOT families who would like to receive donations, an anonymous application is now up on ADOTNet.

Once those applications are received and processed, another application will be posted to ADOTNet for those who want to help those families have a happy holiday season. ■

-Dani Weber, Senior Communications Specialist



TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT HELPS TO KEEP ARIZONA MOVING

WHETHER it's a stalled vehicle, a crash or a spilled truckload, every second counts when it comes to responding to and clearing traffic incidents.

Not only do these events cause traffic backups — for every minute a lane is blocked, traffic is delayed by four minutes — they can also lead to secondary incidents, including crashes, engine stalls and overheating. On top of all that, responding to the scene puts responders in harm's way.

For each of those reasons and more, I want to make you aware of the upcoming Traffic Incident Response Week. Observed this year from **Nov. 13 to 19**, the week is meant to help raise awareness about the dangers emergency responders face at traffic incidents.



Dallas Hammit

For its part, ADOT will launch a public service announcement that explains to drivers that it's OK to move their vehicle to the side of the road after a minor crash. In fact, according to Arizona law, vehicles involved in a noninjury crash that remain operable must be removed from the roadway.

In recent years, this agency has done a lot to improve and expand upon its Traffic Incident Management methods. Here are just some of those efforts:

- A number of ADOT employees have gone through a four-hour [TIM responder course](#) that was developed through the Strategic Highway Research Program.
- In addition to training, ADOT has worked with the Arizona Department of Public Safety to place a state trooper in the Traffic Operations Center 24/7. The partnership has helped reduce clearance times.
- ADOT adopted an internal [“quick clearance” policy](#) earlier this year that sets forth practices for the clearance of disabled vehicles from state highways.

As drivers, we can all do our part by slowing down and moving over whenever we see flashing lights.

It's not just a courtesy — it's the law. Arizona's Move Over law requires all drivers to move over one lane, or slow down and use caution, when passing any vehicle with flashing lights pulled to the side of any road or highway — that includes emergency vehicles, tow trucks, ADOT trucks and even stranded motorists. For more, visit moveoveraz.org and, as always, please share what you learn with your loved ones.

One more thing...

I'd like to express my appreciation to everyone involved with making this year's Safety Stand Down Day a major success. As I mentioned [last month](#), my No. 1 goal for everyone in this agency is that every day, you get to go home in the same condition you came to work in. The information shared during the Safety Stand Down Day events helped to reinforce the fact that we ALL play an important role in building a safer workplace. ■

~Dallas Hammit, Deputy Director for Transportation

KAIZEN KORNER

Kaizen is a Japanese word that refers to any improvement responsible for eliminating waste or improving safety and quality. Changes made as the result of a kaizen, even the smallest ones, can often add up to big results. At ADOT, employees from around the state are implementing kaizens. Here's a closer look at one of them...

KAIZEN COUNT

The number of Kaizens submitted by ADOT employees so far in the new fiscal year is

734

For a complete breakdown by division, visit the [Office of Continuous Improvement page on ADOTNet](#).

The INSIDE

LANE

Repurposing spare tires saves time, money

SINCE ADOT has embarked on its journey of Continuous Improvement, employees all over the agency have found a variety of ways to do business safer, faster and more efficiently. The Equipment Services team in Phoenix even found costs savings in a car trunk.

Typically, vehicles from the ADOT fleet that have been replaced are sold at auction. Some of those vehicles had spare tires that have never been used.

To be able to repurpose unused spare tires, the first thing that had to change was ADOT's Tire Policy. Previously, the replacement of tires was based on age. By changing the policy to allow using tires based on their condition instead,

Equipment Services has the ability to repurpose unused spare tires. Equipment Services Fleet Coordinator James Geering said, "We've already paid for the tires. Why send them to auction when we haven't gotten any use out of them yet?"

As anyone who's owned a vehicle probably knows, replacing tires can be expensive. Just one sedan tire can cost more than a hundred dollars; for heavy-equipment vehicles, the bill is much steeper. Since the change in the Tire Policy, Equipment Services has repurposed 13 unused spare tires, which has yielded approximately \$2,300 in cost savings.

Using spare tires that are still in good condition takes advantage of resources that ADOT already has available, rather than buying something new. While the annual total cost savings is still being calculated, the Equipment Services team is finding they can do their jobs in a more cost-effective manner.

"It was a team effort," Geering said. "We came together and we realized we could use those tires elsewhere." ■

~Dani Weber, Senior Communications Specialist



James Geering

These spare tires alone, pulled from units going to auction, cost about \$500. They will be dismounted and saved for future use while the steel wheels will be disposed as scrap metal.



NOW PLAYING ON A SCREEN NEAR YOU

MANY OF THE VIDEOS produced by ADOT to educate the public are just as informative for employees. If you want to learn something new, consider taking a look at the agency's latest video. It follows biologists from ADOT, the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Gila River Indian Community on a quest to find and relocate lizards, known as chuckwallas, living near the path of the Loop 202 South Mountain Freeway.

Capturing these lizards, which can measure up to 15 inches long, was no easy task.

Groups of four to eight biologists made multiple passes, looking deep into crevices in the rocks with flashlights. If a lizard was spotted, the biologists would first attempt to grab it with their gloved hands before the chuckwalla could dive deeper into a crack. If the chuckwalla wiggled too deeply into a narrow crack, it sometimes required multiple biologists to move the rock with a pry bar while another made the capture.

Approximately 120 chuckwallas were captured and released several hundred feet away.

Before they were released, the chuckwallas were weighed and measured, and their feet were tagged with white paint. In addition, 15 chuckwallas were fitted with radio telemetry harnesses so biologists can track their movements. And all got a tiny transponder tag inserted beneath their skin to help biologists identify them during future surveys.

You can find the new video on ADOTNet in the "[What You Need to Know](#)" video album. ■

LOOK

BACK

For as long as there have been roads in Arizona, there have been people who plan, build and maintain them. It's those skilled women and men who have made this state's transportation history a remarkable one. From 1912 when the Arizona Highway Department was first established, to right now, right here at ADOT, state employees have continuously done the work necessary to keep Arizona moving. Take a look back at some of their stories.

IN THE LATE 1970s, maps were primarily printed on paper and definitely didn't have the ability to point you toward any nearby restaurants or tell you what traffic conditions to expect on the drive home.

Back then, work to develop the earliest Geographic Information Systems (GIS) was well underway, but as evidenced by this 1977 photograph, the technology wasn't widely in use yet.

Taken for an issue of Newsbeat (ADOT's employee newsletter of the day), the photo shows Travel and Facilities Section Manager James Pfalzer standing on top of a 15x17 foot map devised to help planners evaluate Arizona traffic statistics.

According to the accompanying Newsbeat article, the low-tech map was made by piecing together multiple sections of a state atlas. Each of the 30 charts displayed a 400-square-mile area. They were also covered with clear acetate and marked up to identify state highways. Pfalzer is quoted in the story describing the large map's purpose and explaining how the information obtained from studying the map would later be coded into a computer to log statewide traffic volume statistics.

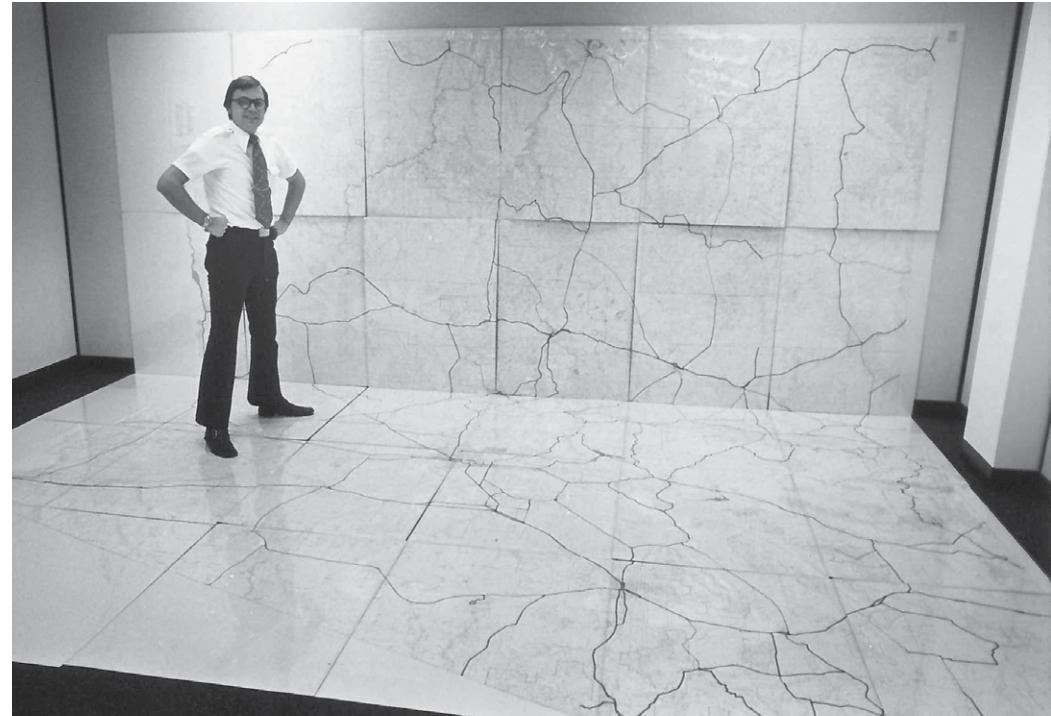
"We needed a map that we could lay out as one continuous chart to show small stretches of roadway in great detail," Pfalzer said. "Our people are evaluating some 600 locations where we may perform our annual 24-hour traffic counts. These maps detail areas of the state where we can expect traffic patterns to change."

It's safe to say modern mapping technology has come a long way in the last 40 years.

Advances in the GIS field have expanded the usefulness of maps and changed the way ADOT is able to manage and analyze information. GIS stores data and gives users the ability to present it onto different layers of a map. It's especially useful when comparing and analyzing different sets of information, whether someone is looking for the closest shopping center or prioritizing state transportation projects.

Current-day Data Analytics Section Manager James Meyer said that through its use of GIS, ADOT is able to get much more value from its data.

ADOT uses the tech to create maps of the state's highway system that display everything from traffic volume and demographic data to pavement quality and capacity. The agency



also works in partnership with other agencies, sharing data back and forth with the State Land Department and other state offices.

"Mapping is only 10 to 15 percent of what we do with GIS at ADOT," Meyer said. "GIS is a way of informing people about what's going on geospatially. Most of our work is spent keeping that information up to date ... we're more data scientists than cartographers."

While some might take maps for granted, Meyer says he hopes that people realize the value of all that data behind those maps and products they use every day.

"Sometimes it's hard to see problems in the data if you don't see it on a map," Meyer said.

For a look at some of ADOT's modern maps, check the [ADOT website](#).

~Angela De Welles, Senior Communications Specialist

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Gov. Doug Ducey declared October Domestic Violence Awareness Month and set in motion the annual Lighting Arizona Purple initiative. In addition to lighting up the capitol with purple lights, Arizona state employees were encouraged to wear purple on Fridays to show solidarity with domestic violence survivors. On Oct. 19, ADOT employees across the state got together to show their support in purple with one message: It can stop. 



MVD - Tucson North



Northwest District - Kingman



Connect 202 - Phoenix



MVD - Prescott



LEE - Phoenix



Risk Management - Phoenix



MVD - Yuma



South Mountain Freeway - Central District



Major Projects



Risk Management



Capitol Complex - Phoenix



Project Management Group - Phoenix



Equipment Services - Phoenix

**IN CASE YOU'RE
ASKED ABOUT IT**

Working at ADOT doesn't automatically make you an expert on everything happening around the agency, but when friends and family want to know about the latest ADOT topic making news, they expect you to have all the answers. Here's what you can tell them when they ask you for details.

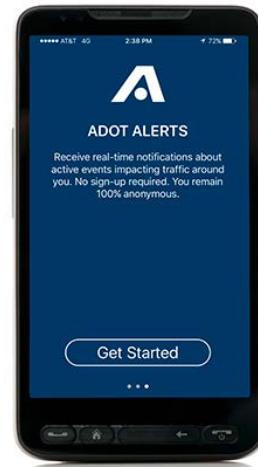
ADOT Alerts is coming soon to a smartphone near you...

THE FREE APP for iOS and Android mobile devices was developed by ADOT as an additional tool for getting information to drivers and it will be used to send real-time travel notifications to mobile devices about significant traffic impacts.

Don't worry — it isn't meant to replace the ADOT Twitter feed or anyone's favorite daily commuting app. ADOT Alerts is focused on providing travelers with details about unplanned major traffic impacts (think snowstorms, major crashes, wrong-way drivers and freeway closures). After getting an alert, drivers can use that information to choose a different route or delay their travel plans, says ADOT Communications Project Manager Doug Pacey.

"We don't want to spam people with alerts. When they get one, it will be because something major has happened," said Pacey, adding that the app also uses geofencing technology so alerts can target users in certain areas of the state.

To get the most out of ADOT Alerts, users should enable location services and push notifications so they can immediately be notified of the most relevant alerts in the area. Whenever ADOT sends an alert to an area a user's mobile device is in, it will pop up on their device's screen with a distinctive alert sound.



A few more things to know about the new app:

- Users are anonymous. There's no need to register or log in to use the app.
- All alerts are sent by real people and those people are your coworkers. More specifically, the public information officers who work at ADOT's Traffic Operations Center are the ones sending the alerts. They'll ensure that the alerts are accurate, critical in nature and appropriately targeted to a geographic area.
- Alerts can contain images, audio and video. When you get an alert, it will pop up on your device's screen with a distinctive alert sound. The alerts will include a text description of the event, but they can also include image attachments, links to websites or video, and custom audio.

You can expect to hear more about ADOT Alerts in the coming weeks as the agency works to get the word out through social media, a news release and television PSA. For even more information, including links to the iTunes App store and Google Play, visit www.azdot.gov/adotalerts.

~Angela De Welles, Senior Communications Specialist

MISSION, VISION AND TRUE NORTH STATEMENTS

ADOT



Check it out

Have you noticed a new poster hanging around your workspace?

It's not just for decoration. It's there to remind all ADOT employees of the agency's new mission, vision and True North statements.

Those statements were crafted by ADOT's leadership team to define the agency's course as it moves ahead on its Continuous Improvement journey. Additional details on the new mission, vision and True North statements can be found in the July 2017 issue of The Inside Lane.

If your area needs additional copies, please send the request to KBoyle@azdot.gov and be sure to indicate the number needed, along with your mail drop number.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Did you notice that we skipped the October issue? We didn't really, but our last issue was labeled September and this one is November and maybe you're wondering why. Moving forward, issues will still be published on the last Wednesday of the month, but they'll be looking toward the month ahead, instead of the one that's almost finished. No matter what month it is, thanks for reading!