

The INSIDE

LANE

A newsletter for employees of the Arizona Department of Transportation

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ADOT

AM ADOT'S chief auditor, a title that unfortunately still causes some anxiety among other ADOT team members! I grew up in Arizona after being transplanted at 5 years old from my birthplace in Rochester, N.Y. After attending Arizona State University to pursue a degree in accounting, I spent eight years doing investigations and audits for the federal government in Los Angeles and San Francisco, then I returned in 1985 to the Valley of the Sun. A year later, I went to work for Arizona Public Service Co., where I worked until my retirement in 2010. I then applied for, and was fortunate to be offered, the job of chief auditor here at ADOT, where I have been for almost seven years.

I see the duty of ADOT's Office of Audit and Analysis as helping all levels of management and employees stay in compliance with the many regulations, laws and rules we operate under in government service, while at the same time being as efficient as possible in carrying out ADOT's mission. I emphasize to audit staff that we must understand the business we are auditing as completely as possible to be able to provide high-quality recommendations for improvement, fostering a culture of compliance — but not complacency.

The audit group is culturally diverse (with team members from Africa, Russia and other parts of the world) and functionally diverse as well. We do tax audits, Motor Vehicle Division office and third-party audits, construction audits, preaward reviews of engineering and design consultants' rates, and performance audits that assess whether ADOT's processes are working as intended to efficiently and effectively achieve desired program results.

To sum it all up: don't fear an audit. Use it as a type of internal consulting service to help you! There is an old joke with a punchline where the auditors say, "We are here to help." Well, we are truly here to help you and ADOT be the best it can be! ■



*Greg Hill
ADOT Chief Auditor*

The INSIDE LANE

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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 photo, taken by ADOT Video Production Project Manager Kim Katchur, shows Allyn Yazzie of Gray Mountain Maintenance Unit watching as ADOT crews repair US 89, which was severed by floodwaters. Also pictured are Nick Garcia, Michael Lopez, George Curley, Matt Bowles, Mark Klein and Joe Chavez. See more photos of US 89 repairs on [ADOT's Flickr site](#).

18-380

TEAMWORK KEY TO SUCCESSFUL US 89 EMERGENCY REPAIR AFTER HEAVY RAIN

WHEN SEVERE flooding created a 30-foot gap in US Route 89, ADOT crews and partners worked nonstop to make extensive emergency repairs. It was no small feat to get traffic moving safely again in fewer than 48 hours on this vital roadway through northern Arizona.

More than 40 employees from the Northcentral District Infrastructure Delivery and Operations Division — including team members from Williams, Page, Gray Mountain, Flagstaff, Camp Verde, Fredonia, Winslow and Payson — assessed the damage, set portable message boards, worked road closures, excavated affected areas, transported 500 cubic yards of material to restore the roadway's base and placed 120 tons of asphalt pavement.

Traffic Operations Center and Communications team members informed motorists about detours and the US 89's repair progress through many channels, including social media, news media advisories, dynamic message signs (DMS), ADOT Alerts and the AZ511 system. During US 89's closure, drivers had to use an alternate route that added 190 miles to their trip.

Assistance also was provided by team members from the Northeast District IDO, State Engineer's Office, Director's Office, Transportation Systems Management and Operations Division, Emergency Management and Systems Management. The Arizona Department of Public Safety and the Federal Highway Administration also helped.

The successful emergency repair of US 89 between Flagstaff and Page in early October is an excellent example of the Connecting One ADOT mindset. Teams across ADOT divisions and units broke down silos and worked together using Total System thinking with a shared goal of providing a safe, accessible transportation system for everyone, every day, everywhere.

"It's testimony to the dedication of so many ADOT personnel, men and women who responded immediately and worked tirelessly, that residents, tourists and commercial vehicles are once again using US 89," ADOT Director John Halikowski said.

Northcentral District Engineer Audra Merrick said, "We identified and immediately acted upon the US 89 repair as a great opportunity for the Northcentral District and Communications teams to apply the Connect One ADOT philosophy to coordinate with the northern Arizona community.

"To establish a detour route and start repairs, we worked with several partners, including the Navajo Department of Transportation, Hopi Tribe and Coconino County," she added.

ADOT is assessing roadway and drainage conditions to prepare for long-term repairs to US 89's damage and is seeking reimbursement for repairs through the Federal Highway Administration's Emergency Relief Program.

Read more about the US 89 repairs on the [ADOT blog](#) and [press release](#). 🇺🇸

~ Lori Baker, Senior Communications Specialist



Reopening US89 in fewer than 48 hours was not an easy feat.



Crews used 500 cubic yards of material to restore US 89's base after floodwaters caused a 30-foot gap in this vital highway through northern Arizona.



Francis Martin from the Gray Mountain Maintenance Unit operates the loader.



Crews applied 120 tons of asphalt pavement to repair US 89.

More than 40 Northcentral District IDO employees worked tirelessly to restore the roadway so it could open in fewer than 48 hours.



The Payson Maintenance Team is the 2018 Team of the Year!

From left: Brice Moran, Robert Millard, Harley Taylor, Scott Umbehauer, Cody Plante, Xavier Rodriguez, Brett Rupp, William Church, Andres Granillo-Mavis, Casey Bramlet, Justen Williams, Shane Reynolds, Michael Moore, Kenneth Wood, and Kenneth Plane.

Brett Rupp, Payson Maintenance

TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD — PAYSON MAINTENANCE!

AT THE LEADERSHIP Conference in August, Payson Maintenance was recognized with the 2018 Team of the Year Award. And the recognition is well-deserved.

In 2017, the Payson Maintenance team answered 72 Priority 1 call-outs, which included the Highline and Tinder fires. That's the highest number of Priority 1 call-outs of any of the 49 maintenance units, and they're on track to answer even more call-outs in 2018. Team members have given up weekends, nights and holidays with their

families to respond to these calls and provide services to the public and other agencies for traffic incident management.

"We were ecstatic," said Northcentral District Engineer Audra Merrick about finding out Payson Maintenance had won Team of the Year. "They're just a special team. They're always helping each other and other agencies and wanting to get things done."

Northcentral Assistant District Engineer Chad Auker agreed. "This team works really well together. Even this morning, they were out until 2 a.m. responding to an incident."

The Payson Maintenance team is also a kaizen machine, churning out 30 kaizens as of August, the third-highest total among maintenance units statewide. One kaizen even saved a project \$144,000 by repurposing 110,000 feet of barbed wire that had been stockpiled with no planned use.

"The Payson unit has completed many kaizens over the past year," Auker said. From creating various forms to help track and monitor pavement surface treatment projects, cattle guard inspection and repair, and culvert inspection and cleaning, to assisting with the winter snow operations to help improve the level of service on the highways during the winter. "All the kaizens have resulted in improved operations and

efficient tracking and repair of maintenance-related items," he added.

The team has also experienced personal loss this past year. One of the team members, Randy Cauley, died earlier this year in a motorcycle crash.

"It's always hard to respond to a fatality incident," said Merrick, "but it's harder when you realize it's one of your own."

Despite the loss, the team helped their fallen teammate's mother, assisted with services and sent out the last call — a tradition among emergency responders to send out one final call to a fallen employee's call sign that receives no answer. The team unified and supported one another during their time of bereavement by volunteering to cover off-work hours to allow each other time to grieve.

The Payson Maintenance team's commitment to continually improving the ways ADOT can serve the public and their unwavering support of one another despite hardship and personal loss truly makes them the 2018 Team of the Year. 🇺🇸

~ Dani Weber, Senior Communications Specialist



Chad Auker, Northcentral District

Deputy Director for Transportation/State Engineer Dallas Hammit (far left) and Deputy State Engineer - Operations Jesse Gutierrez (far right) present the Team of the Year Award to the Payson Maintenance Unit team. Northcentral District Engineer Audra Merrick also joined in the celebration.

Popular Sunset Point Rest Area features sundial memorial to fallen ADOT employees

WITH ITS magnificent scenic views, the Sunset Point Rest Area is a popular stop while traveling to and from northern Arizona, drawing more than 900,000 visitors a year. The rest area's most unique feature is the sundial, which had been installed in summer 1997 as a memorial for employees who died while in the service of the state of Arizona. The concept for the memorial evolved from interest expressed by employees of ADOT.

Sunset Point was chosen as the location for the memorial because of its scenic beauty and because of its large number of visitors. Veteran ADOT employees say the overlook seemed a particularly nice place because of the views.

Sundial represents timeless message

ADOT employees participated in a contest by submitting ideas for the design of the memorial. The sundial was chosen as the winning design because it is an enduring symbol with a timeless message that recognizes the influence of the honored employees.

On the Gnomon (the blade that stands vertically to create the shadow on the base below) is inscribed, "As the sun sets over our fallen companions, may they always be remembered."

On the base of the nationally acclaimed sundial is inscribed, "A sundial is a living object. It needs no winding and is driven

by no weight. It has something to say and it says it. It speaks about time never ceasing to recall the flight of time, its tragedy and irreversibility for men. The thoughts arise of earth, and the end of everything, of eternity, of the world beyond."

The original installation had 27 ADOT employee names engraved on it, and seven more names have been added since.

Recently, Robert Danzo's name was etched onto the sundial. Danzo died at a Tempe maintenance yard. During his 13-year career with ADOT, Danzo helped maintain state roadways by repairing or inspecting pavement, guardrails, fences, drainage channels and bridges as part of the Infrastructure Delivery and Operations Division team.

Sunset Point most popular rest area

The busiest of ADOT's rest areas, Sunset Point is located along Interstate 17, 40 miles north of Phoenix at milepost 251. It is perched on the edge of a valley offering a sweeping view of the Bradshaw Mountains to the west. The nearest large communities are Black Canyon City to the south and Cordes Lakes to the north.

When Sunset Point opened in 1966, it was designed to last 20 years. It had been in service almost twice that long before undergoing major renovations. The rest area was closed for more than a year and reopened in April 2009 with a new restroom

building, overlook, picnic ramadas, sidewalks and septic tanks. The parking lot was reconstructed to accommodate more traffic. A water tank and pump house were built and new septic tanks also were added. Informative signs describe Native American history and information about wildlife.

While traveling to and from northern Arizona, be sure to visit the Sunset Point Rest Area. Even if you don't need a bathroom break or snacks, make a quick stop — the view of the sweeping landscape is breathtaking and the sundial with the names of past ADOT employees is a moving memorial ■

~ Lori Baker, Senior Communications Specialist



John Dougherty, ADOT Communications
ADOT employee memorial plaque



ADOT Communications

Sunset Point Rest Area in 1971.



Rick Bohl, DBi Services

Robert Danzo's name is being added to the sundial which pays tribute to fallen employees who died during services to the state of Arizona.



John Dougherty, ADOT Communications

ADOT wears purple to show support for Domestic Violence Awareness Month

ON OCT. 2, Governor Doug Ducey declared October Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic violence affects 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men, and the mission of this awareness campaign is simple: It can stop. On Oct. 18, ADOT employees from all over the state got together to wear purple in solidarity with survivors of domestic violence. 🇺🇸

~ Dani Weber, Senior Communications Specialist



Capitol Complex

Safety and Risk Management



Equipment Services



Corporate Training: (Left to right) Front: Holly Benson 2nd row: Herminia Martinez, Ellen Mitchell, Iris Benavente 3rd Row: Brandi Clemans, Linda Haynes, Paul Helmreich 4th row: Nancy Rangel, Virginia Goodall, Wayne Beasinger, Brianna Maples, Mullaney Hardesty and Mel Brender



Arizona Highways magazine: (Left to right) Cindy Bormanis, Debbie Klein, Kathy Bailey and Annette Phares



Prescott District Office



Southcentral District



Susan Stumfoll, Administration Services

Spotlight on Safety: Occupational Safety Administrator Bob Stolz shared ADOT's safety programs at the North American Association of Transportation Safety and Health Officials Annual Conference. He spotlighted how the Arizona Management System has increased safety awareness, particularly the [5S](#) method that allows teams to organize the workplace in the safest, most effective manner. He also explained the effective [Avoiding Slips, Trips and Falls](#) training and the reduction in these types of injuries. He discussed ADOT's challenges, including vehicle/heavy equipment incidents, particularly backing up, employee turnover and the increased demand for training. 🇺🇸

WAY TO

GO!



CONGRATULATIONS to all of the ADOT employees who have recently earned spot incentives and meritorious leave! For a complete list of the employees who were awarded, check out the [ADOTNet home page](#).

The criteria for [spot incentives](#) and [meritorious leave](#) can be found under ADOT Policy and Procedures on ADOTNet. 🇺🇸

REJUVENATING LOOP 303 SETS STATE RECORD FOR PAVEMENT PRESERVATION

IN JUST 18 hours, ADOT crews and contractors completed the largest pavement preservation project in Arizona's history. This ambitious project was executed without a hitch thanks to extensive planning, expertise and collaboration.

About 500 tons of fog seal were successfully applied to 155 lane miles in both directions of the Loop 303 between Happy Valley Parkway in Peoria and Interstate 10 in Goodyear on Sept. 22. The fog seal protects the highway's rubberized asphalt and extends the life of the pavement.

The 24-mile section of the Loop 303 reopened to traffic 2.5 hours ahead of schedule — minimizing the impact on motorists. This was the longest stretch of highway pavement that ADOT has refreshed with this oil-based pavement sealant in one project, said Avondale Maintenance Highway Operations Tech Supervisor Mark Kilian, who oversaw the Loop 303 project.

Loop 303's rejuvenation exemplifies what Connecting One ADOT means, with staff working together across ADOT divisions and with contractors resulting in a seamless operation.

Several weeks before the project started, Community Relations Project Manager Karin Krause began informing the public, businesses and emergency responders so they could plan accordingly for the closures.

Marcos Espinosa, a highway operations superintendent with the Transportation Systems Management and Operations Division, played a major role in ensuring the freeway closures and detours were consistent with the needs of the public from a traffic standpoint.

Regional Transportation Plan Superintendent John Zandler adjusted the schedules of contracted sweepers so the shoulders were clean the night leading up to the fog seal.

The Traffic Operations Center and Communications teams kept drivers in the know about what detour routes to use during this closure and when ramps reopened in phases, providing information through social media, news media alerts, overhead message boards, ADOT alerts and the AZ511 system.

"Everyone was very patient and professional as we had multiple channels with a lot of communications going on the entire process," Kilian said.

"We had 46 maintenance and landscape employees that deserve a huge round of applause for working diligently and professionally to make sure this project went off without a hitch," he added. "Each had a specific role and some even had multiple tasks to perform."

In all, there were about 85 people participating in the project onsite, including ADOT employees and contractors.

Mother Nature helped, too.

"The weather was perfect for this project to be completed in the time that it was. Looking at long-range forecasts is another factor of our planning for the success of this type of work. Although we cannot beat Mother Nature at her game, we do get lucky once and a while," Kilian said.

Learn more: Check out ADOT's [press release](#) and view Western Emulsions' [video](#) about the Loop 303 project. ■

~ Lori Baker, Senior Communications Specialist



Mark Kilian

In just 18 hours, ADOT workers and contractors completed the largest pavement preservation project in Arizona's history on Sept. 22.



Western Emulsions

Contractor Western Emulsions applied 500 tons of fog seal emulsion on the Loop 303.

WHAT DO

YOU DO?

At ADOT, it's difficult to sum up anyone's job in just a few words. That's why we're devoting some space in this newsletter to give employees across the agency the chance to share a little bit about what they do every day. If you'd like to participate for a future issue, please send an email to InsideLane@azdot.gov and we'll provide you with a questionnaire.

Meet John McGregor!

Central Region Safety Professional



Photo submitted by John McGregor

How long have you worked for ADOT?

21 months

What training prepared you for your job?

There are many different ways to enter the safety field depending on the industry. The safety team at ADOT is pretty much evenly split on whether they have a college degree. There are credentialing programs, training seminars and of course, on-the-job training. I was working for a medical device manufacturer, and they needed a health physicist to run their radiation safety program in an animal research facility. I had a background in physics, and they were willing to send me to the National Labs at Oakridge, Tenn. to receive training and certification

in health physics. Once I had that training, I kept on attending safety-related seminars in various fields to increase my knowledge.

How do you describe your job to people outside of ADOT?

I say I work with a team of people who help mitigate occupational safety and health risks for employees of ADOT.

Describe a typical work day.

The one great thing about this position is that there is no typical day. On any given day, I could be researching Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations and best practices, investigating injuries and/or vehicle incidents, performing safety walk-

throughs of maintenance yards or MVD offices, or training ADOT employees in myriad safety topics. You try to schedule your week, but something always comes up that requires you to reprioritize.

What do you like most about your job?

I like to problem-solve. A situation comes up, and you have to determine whether there are any regulatory compliance issues, and how you can effectively and simply mitigate the issue.

What do you want other ADOT employees to know about your job that they might not know?

There can be many different ways to work within the confines of an

OSHA regulation, and it is our job collectively to find the easiest way to keep our workers safe.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

It is easy to change an unsafe condition; it is challenging to change an unsafe behavior.

What is the most interesting/exciting thing that has happened to you on the job?

This position allows one to investigate almost every type of job and/or piece of equipment ADOT employs. I don't know what could be more fun than learning something new almost every single day. 🇺🇸

~ Lori Baker, Senior Communications Specialist

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 this fiscal year is

1,390

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



Kathy Boyle, ADOT Communications

Rail ties directing traffic

WHEN IT became clear that it was only a matter of time before a crash happened, Construction Office Technician Carrie Moore took the initiative to create a safer parking lot in the Northeast District.

After a fence that used to block traffic from taking a dangerous route through the parking lot was removed, delivery trucks and other motorists no longer had a visual indication of where it was safe to drive. Besides the narrow passage between the departments, there was also a low utility line that could be dangerous if a vehicle crashed into it.

"It was a safety issue," said Moore. "There was never an accident, but there were a few near misses. We knew we had to block the path to stop people from driving down it."

The solution was simple. Moore arranged for wooden blocks to be placed in the parking area. In addition, the low utility line was removed to mitigate further danger.

"Trucks are now self-correcting," Moore said, and it was clear from her voice that she was relieved.

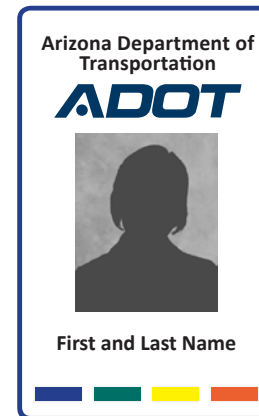
It can be really easy to walk by safety issues in the workplace, especially when no one has been affected ... yet. Proactive kaizens like Moore's not only save motorists and delivery truck drivers time and motion by preventing them from driving where they shouldn't, they also prevent more costly incidents that could cause injury, property damage or both. ■

~ Dani Weber, Senior Communications Specialist

Continually Improving: Streamlining new badge request process

SINCE NOVEMBER 2017, a team has been working to improve the badge process as part of a hands-on Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) problem-solving method training. Initially, the problem identified by this team focused on the fact that more than 30 percent of all ADOT employees did not have an official badge. The team determined that just addressing that 30 percent would not create a standardized process to prevent the problem from recurring.

After consulting with ADOT's Human Resources unit, the team discovered some interesting facts about data availability for new hires and developed a process that allows each new hire to have their official badge and name tag (for employees who interact with the public) created and delivered to their hiring manager before their start date. The new process eliminates seven of the 14 steps that had been involved in the badge request process.



If you are a hiring manager, what this means is you will not have to make a request for a badge for a new employee. It will automatically be created as soon as an EIN is assigned. It will be mailed to whomever is listed on the HR documents as the hiring manager. If the person listed as the hiring manager is not the direct supervisor, they will be responsible for sending the badge to the supervisor. If the hiring manager does not receive a badge for a new hire a few days before their start date, they should contact the Physical Security Office to check on the status. Should building access need to be something other than the basic Capitol Complex access, an email to the Physical Security Office can get that change made quickly.

Contractor, vendor and temporary employee badges will not change from the current process and will require a Badge Request Form to be completed, via DocuSign. Replacement or changed badges will also continue to go through the DocuSign process.

Should there be any questions or problems with getting a badge, the Physical Security Office can be reached at PSO@azdot.gov or 602.712.2230. ■

~ Julie Fenn, Administrative Services Division Senior LEAN Coach

Annual TransComm awards recognize ADOT Communications for excellence



COMMUNICATION directors from more than 30 state DOTs gathered at the annual American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Committee on Transportation Communication — or TransComm. It's a bit like the Oscars for the transportation communication industry, and ADOT Communications walked away with two first-place awards!

"This year, more than 30 states competed across the categories, submitting approximately 160 entries," said ADOT Communications Director Tim Tait, who attended the conference in early October and accepted the awards. "And let me tell you: there is lots of good PR work being done across the country."

ADOT has earned a nationwide reputation for the timely and topical safety messages on our digital message sign (DMS) boards above the freeway. From Hamilton-themed messages — "Talk Less, Drive More" — to reminders about event and concert traffic — "Cut Off? Don't Get Bad Blood, Shake It Off" — ADOT's team at the Traffic Operations Center (TOC) in Phoenix has gained both local and national attention for their wit and relevance.

With the help of Twitter, the TOC team has been able to share those messages with a much larger audience than just Arizona's

freeway motorists. Because of the TOC team's focus on engagement to spread safety messages and build an audience, TransComm awarded them Best Use of Social Media for 2018!

The second first-place award is one The Inside Lane is especially proud to announce because ... well, we won it! That's right! The Inside Lane, the very publication you're reading now, took home the top award in transportation communication for Best Newsletter, and we couldn't be more humbled by the recognition by our peers.

"It's not about winning," Tait said, "but, for me, it's about the teamwork that goes into all of our projects. We have a strong team spirit in Communications and it is reflected in our work." 🇺🇸

~ Dani Weber, Senior Communications Specialist

WINNER

WINNER!

We received several creative entries in response to last month's caption contest, but there could only be one winner. Congratulations

to Janie Garcia from Litigation and Public Records for submitting the winning caption! Internal Communications Manager Kathy Boyle (left) awarded Janie with a special gift bag.



Look Jess! I created a master form to organize the forms we use to order forms!



ADOT JUMBLE

Directions: Unscramble each of the clue words, then arrange the circled letters to form the answer. Email your answers to InsideLane@azdot.gov by Nov. 15. Everyone who solves the puzzle will be entered into a drawing for a (small) prize. We'll reveal the answers in next month's newsletter. Good luck!

1) NITRP

○ ○ _ _ _

2) KIN

○ _ _

3) ROXXE

_ _ ○ _ _

4) RONTÉ

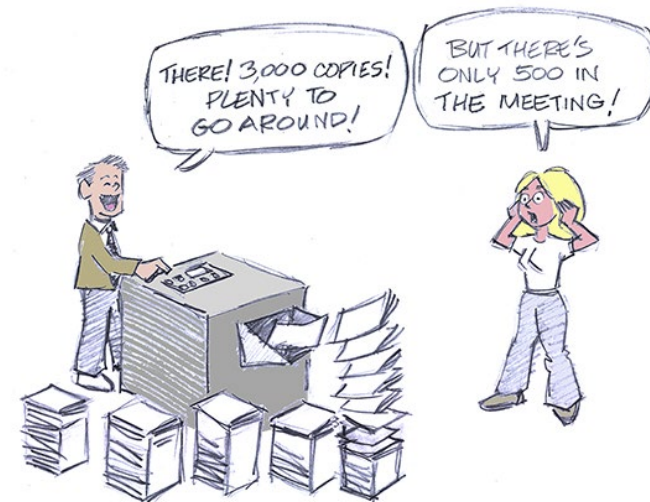
○ _ _ _ _

5) TEPLUAICD

_ _ ○ ○ _ _ ○ _ _

6) METGANA

_ _ _ _ ○ _ _ ○



Janet knew that Brad made too many copies because he left a:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

This cartoon shows an example of overproduction, one of the eight wastes identified in Continuous Improvement. Overproduction happens when employees produce more of a product than is needed. That can mean providing information the customer doesn't need or making copies of reports no one reads.

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.

Don't Drive One in Five

DO YOU remember the “Don't Drive One in Five” air quality campaign?

Back in 1989, state employees were encouraged not to drive alone to work at least once a week. Some carpooled, took the bus, walked or rode a bike.

Tammy Homberg, who was ADOT's coordinator of the Clean Air Drive at the time, was among state employees who worked four 10-hour days as a way to reduce travel. She remembers the big celebration at Patriots Park in Phoenix to encourage state employees to help reduce air pollution. Those who participated could enter a drawing for about 800 prizes!

Homberg, who now is part of ADOT's Web Team, was one of the lucky winners and received a 10-speed bicycle, which she still has. Other prizes included round-trip airplane tickets to Las Vegas, weekends for two at resort hotels and leather luggage.

The campaign's kick-off drew a large noon-time crowd as you can see in the pictures from Newsbeat, ADOT's employee newsletter in 1989. An electric car on display drew many onlookers who were curious about this emerging innovation.

Today, it's easier than ever to help reduce air pollution. [Capitol Rideshare](#) promotes alternate modes of transportation for state employees

including subsidies for using buses, light rail or vanpools. Carpoolers can use reserved Rideshare parking space. Charging stations are available for electric vehicles at many state worksites, including the Capitol Mall area. Telework is an option for qualified employees to work from home or a state office closer to home one or more days a week.

The [Commuter Club](#) is available to state employees in Maricopa and Pima counties using an alternate mode at least twice a week. Members can get free emergency rides home and discounts for using Uber and Lyft.

If you'd like to share your story about using alternative modes of transportation, please send an email to InsideLane@azdot.gov.

~ Lori Baker, Senior Communications Specialist



Awareness weeks put focus on important **safety** topics



Dallas Hammit

IT SEEMS LIKE there is a day or a week to recognize almost everything. Most, like National Reptile Awareness Day or Watermelon Appreciation Month, are just for fun, but easy enough to glance over.

However, there are designated days, weeks and months intended to raise awareness of some serious subjects, and many of those are focused on transportation safety. I want to use this space this month to remind you of a safety-focused week that just happened and let you know about another upcoming awareness week that deserves attention ...

In late October, we marked **National Teen Driver Safety Week**. I've written about this week [previously](#), but the topic is one that bears repeating. Observed this year Oct. 21-27, the week shines a light on the fact that vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United States.

The week always offers a reminder for parents to talk with their teen drivers and remind them of the simple actions they can take to make themselves safer in cars. Those actions include wearing a seat belt, not speeding, not driving while impaired (or letting impaired people get behind the wheel) and avoiding distractions.

In Arizona last year, the month of October saw more crashes involving young drivers than any other month. In 2017, there were 5,106 crashes involving drivers ages 16-24. What we say and do matters, which is why I encourage you to make time to talk with your teenagers about their driving behaviors to help guide them to become safer motorists.

Coming up Nov. 11-17, we'll be observing **National Traffic Incident Response Week**. The week offers an important reminder that responders

representing fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services, towing and transportation agencies face a number of dangers when they respond to incidents.

We can all help keep responders safe by slowing down and moving over whenever we see flashing lights. It's the right thing to do, but it's also 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.

Of course, you don't have to wait for a national awareness week to focus on safety — it should be a year-round concern for all of us. I encourage you to regularly reflect on and improve your driving behaviors. As always, be sure to take any and all opportunities to talk about safe driving with your family and loved ones. 🚗

~ Dallas Hammit, Deputy Director for Transportation



Traffic Incident Management keeps the traveling public moving and safe after crashes or other incidents occur on the roadway. Drivers should slow down and move over to assist first responders.

Adopt
an Angel
applications
now being
accepted

THE GOAL of the ADOT Adopt an Angel Program is to provide a comfortable holiday season for families of ADOT employees in need of assistance.

If you would like to apply for assistance and/or to learn more about the program, please visit the [ADOT Adopt an Angel Program website](#).

Employees need to return applications to the ADOT Awards and Recognition Office no later than **Friday, Nov. 9**. Applications can be faxed to 602.712.3158 or emailed to awaandrecogn@azdot.gov.

