



June 9, 2026
Statewide Stakeholder Listening Tour Update

Follow along as we tour our great state of Arizona to listen to stakeholders tell us about their transportation challenges and unmet transportation needs.

Read below to hear about our listening sessions in May 2026: Globe+Miami, Copper Corridor (Kearny), Sun Cities Area, East Valley Partnership and Arizona Forward.

**Next Move stakeholder listening session recaps
and summaries available online!**

www.nextmoveaz.com

**Globe Area
May 11, 2026**



Our friends in Globe emphasized the importance of strong relationships, communication and coordination between ADOT, local communities and key stakeholders, viewing these efforts as essential to both project success and economic development. As one participant noted, "feeling like we have a relationship goes a long way."

Key priorities included regular coordination meetings, responsive communication when communities reach out, expanded stakeholder engagement and stronger coordination with local mining operations and other agencies. Participants also identified opportunities to improve efficiency by aligning (Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) projects, Road Safety Assessments and other planning efforts.

Safety was a major focus, with concerns about pedestrian crossings along SR 60, lighting, traffic operations through Globe and maintaining network redundancy for emergencies and evacuations.

Participants highlighted the need for permitting processes that better accommodate major regional events and their impacts. The concept of "beautification as economic development" was emphasized, reflecting the connection between transportation investments, community appearance and economic vitality. Additional discussion included exploring the potential return of inmate crews for maintenance activities.

Copper Corridor (Kearny) May 12, 2026



The stakeholder group in Kearny represented what is known as "the Copper Corridor." This group focused on improving communication, coordination and partnerships between ADOT and local communities. They emphasized the need for more proactive engagement, consistent points of contact and stronger relationships with rural leaders. There was also discussion of partnering with other agencies, such as the state department of tourism,

to improve messaging during construction and ensure better inclusion of local input.

Transportation and infrastructure needs highlighted included better transit options for elderly and disabled residents, improved pavement conditions and added safety features such as passing lanes, pullouts, pedestrian crossings and improved visibility at key access points. Stronger regional coordination of construction projects was requested to reduce overlapping closures and better manage impacts on communities and businesses.

Specific local concerns included safety and signage improvements in Superior and Kearny, vegetation management affecting visibility, and roadway safety issues near schools and intersections. Participants also noted challenges with construction impacts, funding distribution and reduced enforcement activity.

Sun Cities Area May 14, 2026



We appreciated the opportunity to collaborate with Maricopa County Supervisor Lesko's office for this Listening Session. The group told us there are major transportation challenges in the Sun Cities area, especially limited access to fixed-route transit and a lack of service for unincorporated communities. While residents contribute to transportation funding, they feel they don't receive proportional service, and current programs like Ride Choice and Dial-a-Ride are seen as difficult to navigate or too costly for many seniors. There was also strong concern about isolation among older adults and how limited mobility impacts access to important daily needs.

Coordination among agencies such as ADOT, MAG, cities, and the county was described as fragmented, leading to gaps in planning and inconsistent service delivery. They said that outreach from ADOT and other agencies often happens too late and through limited channels, leaving out important stakeholders and local media. Participants want earlier, more consistent engagement and better opportunities to provide input during project development.

The group told us that rapid growth in the West Valley, along with increasing congestion on US 60, rising freight traffic and safety challenges from cut-through routes, are intensifying pressure on the roadway system.

East Valley Partnership May 27, 2026



Thank you to East Valley Partnership for hosting such a productive Listening Session! This group emphasized that transportation is closely tied to Arizona's economy, business growth and overall competitiveness. Limited transportation infrastructure can restrict job access and discourage new businesses from locating here. There was a strong focus on ADOT's role in balancing reactive needs with proactive planning, especially as multimodal travel, aviation and emerging technologies like autonomous and electric vehicles become more important. Improving intercity and north-south high-capacity connections—particularly in growing areas like the far east valley—was also highlighted as a key need.

Collaboration and partnerships were a consistent theme, including opportunities for ADOT to support other agencies through grants, administration and potential public-private partnerships to deliver critical infrastructure. Attendees also noted the importance of updating freight movement and truck parking strategies, ensuring that policies reflect current trends. Safety, access and affordability were central considerations, along with the idea that users across all modes including drivers, transit riders and freight operators should contribute to system funding.

Overall, participants stressed prioritization, integration of multimodal systems and clear communication about transportation costs, benefits and long-term economic impact, with a strong emphasis on keeping people, not vehicles, at the center of transportation planning.

Arizona Forward May 27, 2026



The conversation focused on what Arizona's transportation system represents today—strong connectivity across a large and fast-growing state, but also increasing strain from congestion, construction, and long-term growth. Many participants noted the system's value in supporting economic activity and daily mobility, while also pointing to growing pinch points in the freeway network and the need for better options like rail between major cities such as Phoenix, Tucson, and Flagstaff.

A second major theme was connectivity and funding. People emphasized the importance of linking regional and interstate economic corridors, improving access outside Maricopa County, and better coordination among agencies like ADOT, MAG, and Valley Metro. At the same time, there was concern that funding systems aren't keeping pace with demand or new technologies.

Safety, design, and future flexibility rounded out the discussion. Participants discussed how road design, enforcement, and driver behavior all affect safety, and noted the need for clearer communication about planning decisions. Looking ahead, ideas included more multimodal options, new funding approaches, and designing a transportation system flexible enough to adapt to changing vehicles, technology, and travel behavior.

Tribal consultation and community outreach

are integral parts of Next Move Arizona.

Dedicated government-to-government consultation and Tribal outreach are ongoing throughout the tour in coordination with the ADOT Tribal Relations Team. If you represent a Tribal Nation and would like more information, to engage in a formal consultation, or to schedule or attend a regional Listening Session event, please contact:

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In June we are visiting Payson, Pinal Partnership, WESTMARC, City of Maricopa, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Arizona (ACEC Arizona), Phoenix Community Alliance, the Southern Arizona Arts and Culture Network, the Southern Arizona Community and Economic Leadership Network, and the Sonoita Area.

We are committed to covering the entire state and working with local communities to shape events that are most appropriate for your area!

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