



RAMPING UP
for the Future

STATE ROUTE 189: INTERNATIONAL BORDER TO GRAND AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A bimonthly newsletter from the Arizona Department of Transportation to share important information about the State Route 189 project

HAPPY 2021!

After a year of challenges worldwide, the Arizona Department of Transportation and the team dedicated to the State Route 189 improvement project look forward to a new year full of exciting things, including project completion. After years of anticipation, work that began in spring 2020 is now more than halfway complete. When driving through Nogales, you cannot miss the active construction zone and the exciting signs of what is to come. ADOT is thankful to the Nogales community for all of the partnerships and overall support of the project.



PROJECT PROGRESS UPDATE

- All girders have been placed for the individual flyover ramps, from east to north and south to west. Currently, crews are working to place the overhang falsework on both sides of each bridge, as well as the stay-in-place decking that will hold the concrete in place while it is poured and cured. Crews will follow behind and begin placing the rebar for the decks. Ames Construction Inc. is tentatively planning

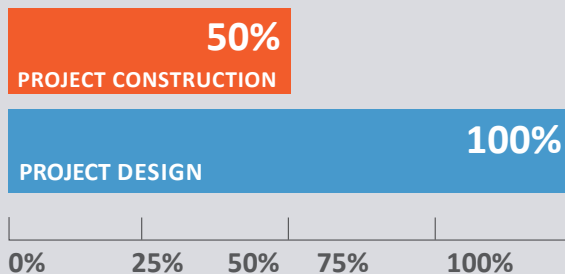


- Flyover ramp south-to-west (southbound I-19 to westbound SR 189) will be 1,800 feet long and 32 feet wide.
- Flyover ramp east-to-north (eastbound SR 189 to northbound I-19) will be a half mile long and 32 feet wide.
- The maximum height of the flyover bridges will be 60 feet above ground.

to begin pouring the decks in March, warm weather permitting. ADOT will provide more information about the deck pours when it is confirmed.

- The first column and the caps on top of the piers for the combination bridge that carries traffic over Frank Reed Road is complete. This supports the last span of the ramp and the east-to-north and south-to-west bridges. The drilling subcontractor completed the drilled shafts for the remaining combination bridge columns in late December. The contractor is now working to complete the columns and pier caps by early spring.
- Construction of the roundabout is broken into several phases, which allows one lane of traffic to remain open in each direction. The first phase of concrete paving is complete. The contractor is scheduled to place temporary pavement this month, which will allow traffic to drive on the newly constructed concrete pavement. This will allow the next phase of roundabout construction and concrete paving to begin. The final traffic switch is scheduled for late March, followed by the final items to complete the roundabout this summer.
- The project is currently scheduled for completion this fall, barring unexpected delays.

PERCENTAGE COMPLETION



ADOT DIRECTOR JOHN HALIKOWSKI HONORED AS "FRIEND OF THE BORDER"

Arizona Department of Transportation Director John Halikowski was honored with the "Friend of the Border" Award from the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority during the Santa Cruz County Board of Directors meeting on Dec. 17, 2020.

Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority @PortN... · 26m · · · · ·
Congrats to Director Halikowski of @ArizonaDOT for receiving the Friend of the Border Award! During today's monthly meeting, board members recognized the Director for his leadership and continued engagement with Arizona's border communities. 1/



Santa Cruz County AZ and 8 others

ADOT DIRECTOR JOHN HALIKOWSKI
recognized as "Friend of the Border"

The award, which exemplifies the many benefits of government and industry working together, was given to Director Halikowski in recognition of his leadership and efforts to advance the Port Authority's mission, which centers on strengthening the regional economy, improving international trade and promoting tourism and community development by making the international ports of entry and surrounding areas efficient and effective.

In a letter to Director Halikowski, Port Authority Chairman Jaime Chamberlain said, "your actions, policies and vision have greatly contributed to the advancement of many initiatives that have helped address many issues of concern and help position Nogales for continued growth."

In recent years, ADOT made significant transportation improvements to the Mariposa Port of Entry in Nogales and is currently improving State Route 189 between the international border and Grand Avenue. Both projects bolster international trade, support the import and distribution of fresh produce from Mexico and strengthen the local, regional and state economies. They also reflect Arizona Governor Doug Ducey's vision of enhancing trade and fostering a strong relationship with Mexico.

"The Friend of the Border Award is a great honor," Halikowski said. "ADOT is grateful for a strong partnership with the Port Authority and appreciates the opportunity to work with so many outstanding community partners in Nogales and surrounding communities. This award truly demonstrates the value of strong public-private partnerships."

Previous recipients of this award include the late Will Brooks and Consul General Virginia Staab.

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES TAKE FLIGHT IN SR 189 FREEWAY CONSTRUCTION

As State Route 189 construction progresses from the international border of Mexico to Grand Avenue in Nogales, monarch butterflies are emerging throughout the new highway structures. Abstract butterflies are cascading down the concrete piers being installed for the new bridge and flyover ramps connecting SR 189 and Interstate 19. "This design shows



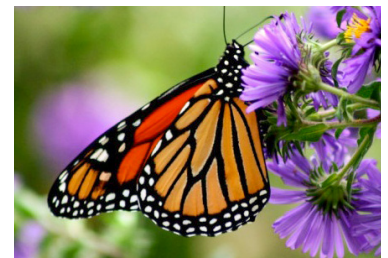
how these butterflies cluster together on tree trunks," said Landscape Architectural Designer Joseph R. Salazar, who is the project aesthetic manager. Three-dimensional metal butterflies will be attached as accent icons on the concrete retaining walls. Abstract butterfly designs also will be incorporated in landform graphics.

Why were butterflies chosen as the project's aesthetic theme?

ADOT roadside development team members studied the cultural, historical and biological contexts in the Nogales Port of Entry area. They learned that SR 189 is also known as Mariposa (Spanish for butterfly) Road. In addition, the North American monarch butterflies are significant in this region — migrating through Arizona between Mexico and Canada in the fall and spring. "I decided to incorporate the monarch butterfly because it represents movement and transportation, which ties in with the busy Nogales Port of Entry that has a lot of trade going back and forth," Salazar said. The monarch butterflies' bold colors

and shapes echo the vibrant colors, cultural and natural beauty of the area. Monarch butterflies are under consideration by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion on the Endangered Species List. The SR 189 landscaping will benefit monarch butterflies because milkweed shrubs — the primary food source for monarch caterpillars — will be part of the vegetation.

Roadside Resources Specialist Kris Gade is part of a group that developed a nationwide candidate conservation agreement for monarch butterflies to conserve and enhance monarch butterfly habitat, including providing vegetation they need to survive, such as milkweed. "ADOT supported development of the agreement and is working on identifying monarch butterfly habitat areas in rights of way around the state," she added. View more photos of the butterfly design in the SR 189 highway on [Flickr](#).



MONARCH BUTTERFLY ON ASTER
Rick L. Hansen,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MEET THE TEAM: JEREMY MOORE, P.E.

Jeremy Moore's 16 years with the Arizona Department of Transportation started with an internship while he was in college in 2004. But he wasn't making coffee or copies. He was working in the field. In 2005, he graduated from the University of Arizona and worked as an Engineer in Training, in a two-year program that saw him rotating through several departments in Phoenix and Tucson.



JEREMY MOORE, P.E.

Keeping SR 189 project on track is all in a day's work for Tucson native and ADOT Assistant District Engineer Jeremy Moore

This real-world experience led to a permanent position with ADOT when he was hired as a Project Supervisor for the Tucson District Construction Group in 2006.

He's now an Assistant District Engineer for ADOT's Southcentral District, overseeing the State Route 189 improvement project between the international border and Grand Avenue in Nogales. This is one of Arizona's major highway projects, making commercial truck traffic safer and more efficient.



"This project is unique in that it is right on the border of Arizona and Mexico, and there is a great amount of pedestrian traffic and vehicular traffic," Jeremy said about working near the Mariposa Port of Entry, one of the busiest in the country. "This project will have a positive influence on international commerce and growth, not to mention the safety benefits for the local community and road users." –Jeremy Moore

When completed, the 3.75 mile highway will cut at least 10 minutes in travel time per northbound truck. Its importance to the nation can't be underestimated - the port is the main point of entry for produce entering the United States from Mexico.

A typical day for Jeremy is the definition of multitasking: On any given day he's checking with staff and escalating any issues that arise, attending meetings, reviewing project plans, monitoring maintenance and project budgets, or interacting with COGs (Councils of Governments), MPOs (Metropolitan Planning Organizations), and local jurisdictions to ensure ADOT's five-year construction plan is on target.

"My role on the project is to provide support to the project team. I monitor the construction activities and communicate frequently with the team to ensure issues and challenges are successfully being handled and seen through," he said.

Jeremy lives in Tucson, where he was born and raised, and has a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Arizona. In his off hours he values spending as much time as possible with his two children, ages 11 and 5, and enjoys working out and working around the house.

He also values his ADOT family. "I really enjoy the people and the family atmosphere. I enjoy making a difference and that everyone has the same core values," he said. "I feel like I'm helping to make a difference by improving the transportation system through my education and experience."



HOW TO CONTACT THE ADOT PROJECT TEAM

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