



# RAMPING UP for the Future

# ADOT

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## STATE ROUTE 189: INTERNATIONAL BORDER TO GRAND AVENUE

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

### FOUR MONTHS AND COUNTING!

Can you believe the State Route 189 project is scheduled for completion in about four months? We can't believe how fast the time has gone. It feels like the project just started, until you see all of the amazing progress. The contractor is working hard to bring what was once only a dream and a vision to fruition, and barring any unexpected delays, the vision will be a reality by this fall. The SR 189 project is so much more than road improvements and new bridges. It represents hope for a brighter future; expanded business opportunities; improved access; efficiency and safety; and most of all, it exemplifies partnerships and possibilities. We continue to thank you for your patience as we inch ever closer to the finish line.

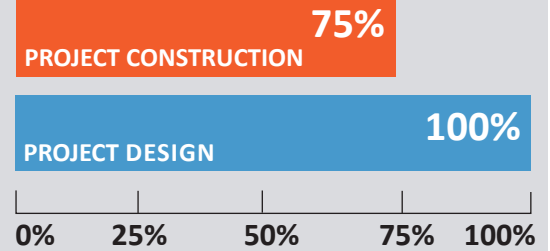


### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



- The flyover bridges east-to-north (eastbound SR 189 to northbound I-19) and south-to-west (southbound I-19 to westbound SR 189) are 90% complete and the decks for both are completed. Remaining items include painting and constructing the barrier walls of the bridge.
- The first half of the roadway work between I-19 and Grand Avenue is complete. Traffic will be shifted, and the second half—on the north side of SR 189—is scheduled to start in May.
- The Roundabout at Target Range Road was completed. It opened on May 17th.
- The road work on the west side of Grand Avenue near Mariposa Road has been completed. Traffic has now shifted so work can begin on the east side of Grand Avenue by the railroad tracks. Crews are currently working on the lighting and the completion of the overall widening to allow for the third left-turn lane from northbound Grand Avenue to westbound SR 189.

#### PERCENTAGE COMPLETION



- ➔ All of the girders have been set for the flyover bridges and the concrete decks have been poured.
- ➔ Crews are completing the rest of the construction details before it will open in a few months.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: GIRDERS AND RAMPS

# GIRDERS IN PLACE ON NEW SR 189 RAMPS TO INTERSTATE 19

**W**ith just a few months to go on the vital State Route 189 improvements in Nogales, the heavy lifting—as in 8.5 million pounds of concrete-and-steel girders—is complete.

Arizona Department of Transportation work crews recently placed the final girders on new ramps that will connect SR 189 with Interstate 19, Arizona’s busiest route for international commerce.

With the help of massive cranes, two workers carefully guided the last of 122 girders into place on the ramps. The girders are some of the largest ever used in Arizona—as much as 165 feet from end to end— with an average weight of 70,000 pounds.

Girders are support beams that connect the piers, which are what provide support for the ramps. The bridge deck of concrete and reinforced steel will go on top of those girders to form the surface for traffic.

The SR 189 project has 32 bridge spans, 19 for the half-mile-long northbound ramp, and 13 for the southbound ramp, which is about one-third of a mile in length.

Work will continue through the summer. In addition to pouring concrete decks for the two ramps, crews are completing a roundabout at SR 189 and Target Range Road. The roundabout will eliminate the stop sign and allow traffic to flow easily, and more safely, through the intersection.

Why are the ramps so important? There are several reasons. Economically, the ramps will make Nogales a more-attractive place for international commerce to enter the U.S. That’s significant. The Mariposa Port of Entry saw about \$25.5 billion in imports and exports in 2019, including much of the winter produce consumed in the U.S. They’ll save trucking

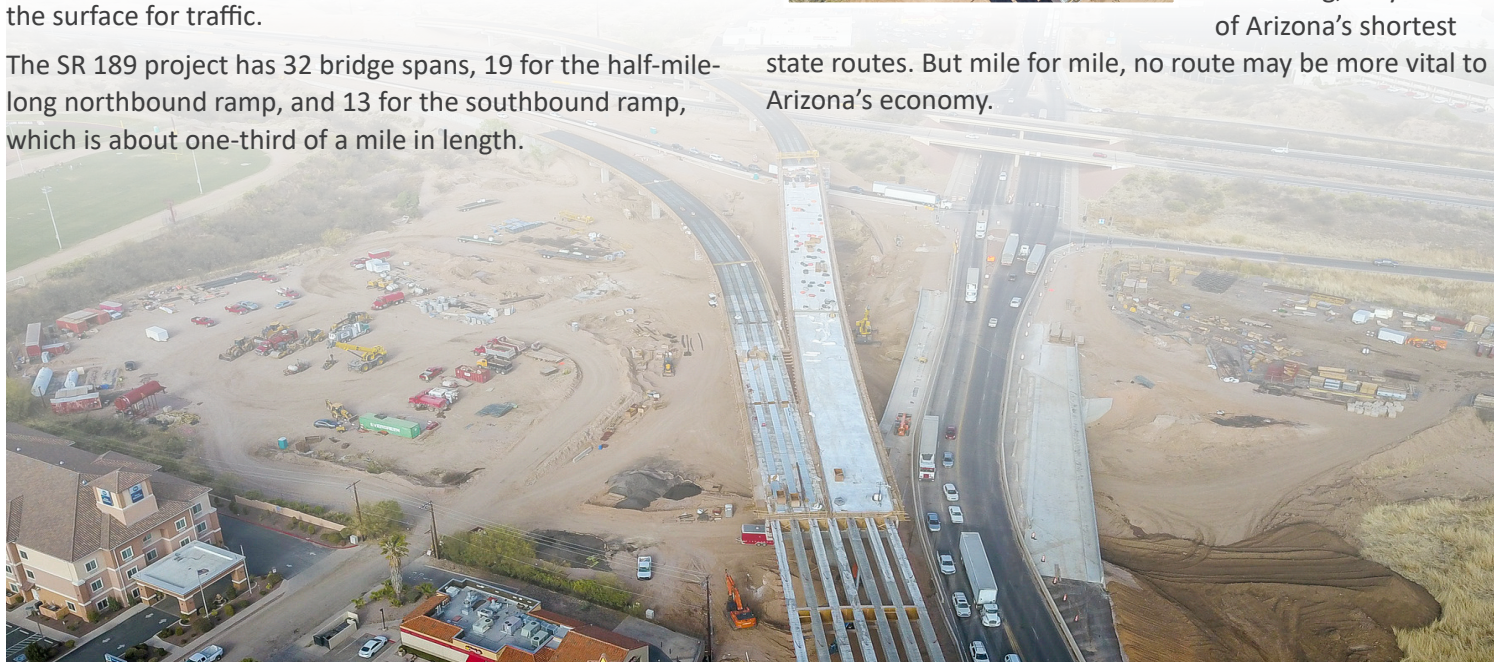
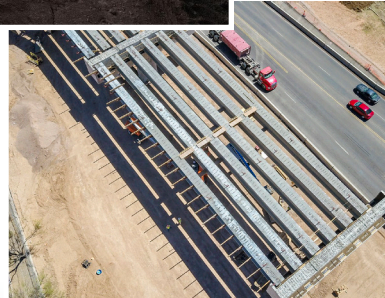
companies time and money by eliminating the need to stop at three traffic signals. That may seem like a small thing, but multiply those savings by 360,000 trucks a year, and it’s tremendously significant.

Nogales also will be a safer place for drivers, including high school students. Trucks will leave SR 189 for the ramps before they reach Frank

Reed Road, which leads to Nogales High School. That means students will no longer have to navigate around trucks to get to and from school.

SR 189, not quite 4 miles long, may be one of Arizona’s shortest

state routes. But mile for mile, no route may be more vital to Arizona’s economy.



ADOT PROJECT TEAM MEMBER ANNETTE RILEY, P.E.

ANNETTE RILEY, P.E., ASSISTANT STATE ENGINEER

A 21-year career with ADOT has more than prepared Assistant State Engineer Annette Riley, P.E., for her role with the State Route 189 freeway improvement project.



ANNETTE RILEY, P.E. Assistant State Engineer

She's worked on highway projects all around the state in various positions within the Infrastructure Delivery and Operations Division. "I have been lucky enough to have worked for several different groups within IDO and learned from, as well as worked with, many great professionals," she said.

Early in her career she worked on a number of ADOT projects in both the State and Valley Project Management groups. She helped facilitate the adoption of the 2009

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices while in the Traffic Group, and managed a staff of nearly 70 employees with the Roadway Engineering Group.



Working on the SR 189 project is exciting. To be the project manager for a project of this magnitude to better service both the local residents and the commercial traffic, for the betterment of the state's economy has been an extremely rewarding experience," Riley said.

"Every position I was offered to work on has been a great growth opportunity for me with many memorable moments," she said.

Today, Annette is part of the Major Projects Group in the State Engineer's Office. She enjoys her work on the SR 189 freeway project.

During the design phase of the project, she worked to resolve technical, cost and time issues. "Now that we have phased into construction, I support the construction district with any technical or project-cost issues, and any issues that need clarification or escalation," she said.

Annette graduated from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and now lives in Chandler with her twin 10-year-old sons, and "very patient" husband. When time allows, she and her family like to take extended hiking trips.



IN MEMORY OF

Nogales Police Officer Jeremy Brinton

Thank you for your service.

Want to see more incredible project photos? Visit ADOT's Flickr page flickr.com/photos/arizonadot/albums/



HOW TO CONTACT THE ADOT PROJECT TEAM:

EMAIL: SR189@AZDOT.GOV

24-7 HOTLINE: 1.833.613.0496

WEB: AZDOT.GOV/SR189

