MEMORANDUM

Date: December 17, 2015

To: The Honorable Ally Miller, Member
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Re: Funding Transportation Obligations in the County and the Use of Transportation Revenues; Highway User Revenue Funds and Vehicle License Tax

During the discussion regarding the adoption of the 2016 Legislative Agenda, you continued to restate the belief that all Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) and Vehicle License Tax (VLT) monies received by the County should be used for road repair. To avoid any misunderstanding, please understand that no county, city or town in Arizona, nor the Arizona Department of Transportation, use their HURF and/or VLT revenues exclusively for road repair. Every transportation agency in the State, whether it be the State of Arizona or any county, city or town, uses their HURF and VLT revenues to operate their transportation agency, which may include paying for revenue bond debt incurred to provide transportation improvements and/or capital improvement to their respective highway and/or transportation systems.

We have provided on a number of occasions, the functional allocation of HURF and VLT revenues within the Department of Transportation. The funds are used to operate our entire Transportation Department and are not used exclusively for road repair. Again, this is the case for all transportation agencies throughout the State.
I hope this provides some clarity to the continued misinformation and misrepresentation regarding the County’s use of County allocated HURF and VLT.

Please contact me if you or your staff require any further clarification or information regarding the appropriate legal and authorized uses of HURF and VLT allocated to the County’s Department of Transportation for transportation purposes; which includes, as you know, transit. We would be happy to assist you in any efforts you wish to make regarding defunding our Maintenance of Effort obligations to the Regional Transportation Authority for transit. Such would require holding public hearings to cease transportation funding activities in the unincorporated area of Pima County. If you would like to pursue such, we will arrange the appropriate public hearings for you to attend to do so.

CHH/anc

c: The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Priscilla Cornelio, Director, Department of Transportation