



MEMORANDUM

Date: October 10, 2014

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

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CHH", is written over the printed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: **Information Requested from the Department of Transportation**

The attached October 6, 2014 email was directed by your staff to Pima County Department of Transportation staff. Transportation Department Director Priscilla Cornelio provided responses to those questions in the attached October 9 memorandum.

As indicated in Ms. Cornelio's response, patching of pavement potholes is one of the maintenance activities given the highest priority by our staff. Further, we ensure that the method used to fill potholes is the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

We generally prefer the use of asphaltic concrete material that is properly compacted to assure the patches restore the riding surface to an acceptable condition and provide for a longer lasting finish product.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

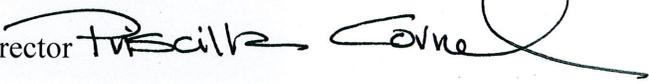
CHH/mjk

Attachments

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



MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 9, 2014
TO: C.H. Huckelberry, County Administrator
FROM: Priscilla S. Cornelio, P.E., Director 
SUBJECT: **District 1 Questions**

District 1 made the following inquiries of DOT shown in italics:

Do we own more trucks for hot pothole repair that are out of service? DOT owns 5 pothole patch trucks. They are used every day that they are available. As with any mechanical device, they will sometimes be unusable due to maintenance or repair. DOT does not have stand-by or replacement patch trucks; if DOT had any stand-by trucks they would be used regularly. Pothole patching is one of DOT's top activities. When one vehicle goes down DOT's options are limited; most often DOT must resort to using cold mix or deferral of patching until the unit is back in service.

Do we ever rent or lease them? No. Due to the specific use for such vehicles, no vendor keeps any on hand for rental.

Are we trying to buy another? Not this year. Three trucks are fairly new; the other 2 are about 8 years old and will be due for replacement in 2-3 years. DOT will budget for 2 replacement trucks in the FY 15/16 budget.

Do you know anything about the new material City of Tucson is using for potholes? Are we considering using it? DOT is familiar with the COT material. Any patch less than a full cut/patch leaves a less than desirable product. The COT is using what could be called a "chip patch" which is simply gravel covered in oil. This is probably not cheaper than what DOT utilizes considering how much oil is needed (oil being the most costly material used). By the COT's own admission, such patches do not last as long as the hot AC mix DOT uses. In addition they leave excess gravel.

Please let me know if you would like any more information.

PSC:DC:dg

c: John M. Bernal, Deputy County Administrator
David Cummings, Operations and Maintenance Division Manager

John Bernal

Subject: FW: Trucks and pothole material

Importance: High

From: Naomi Oku-Alonzo
Sent: Monday, October 06, 2014 4:18 PM
To: Annabelle Valenzuela
Subject: Trucks and pothole material

Hi Annabelle,

Do we own more trucks for hot pothole repair that are out of service? **[DC DOT owns 5 pothole patch trucks. They are used every day that they are available. As with any mechanical device, they will sometimes be unusable due to maintenance or repair. We do not have stand-by or replacement patch trucks; if we did we would just use more of them. Pothole patching is one of our top activities. When one of our vehicles goes down our options are limited; most often we have to resort to cold mix or deferral of patching until the unit is back in service.]**

Do we ever rent or lease them? **[DC No. Due to the specific use for such vehicles, no vendor keeps any on hand for rental.]**

Are we trying to buy another? **[DC Not this year. Three of our trucks are fairly new; the other two are about 8 years old and will be due for replacement in 2-3 years. We will likely budget for 2 replacements in the 15/16 budget.]**

Do you know anything about the new material City of Tucson is using for potholes? Are we considering using it? **[DC Yes, and no. I don't like any patch; anything less than a full cut/patch leaves a less than desirable product, but we do what we have to to minimize risk. I don't know what drove the COT to start using what I would call a "chip patch". All this is gravel covered in oil. I can't believe this is cheaper considering how much oil is needed (oil being the most costly material used). By the COT's own admission, such patches don't last as long as hot AC mix. I don't like them because they leave excess gravel.]**

Respectfully,

Naomi Oku-Alonzo
Constituent Liaison
Pima County Supervisor Ally Miller – District 1

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<http://www.allymillerdistrict1.com/Home.html>

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