



SONORAN CORRIDOR STUDY

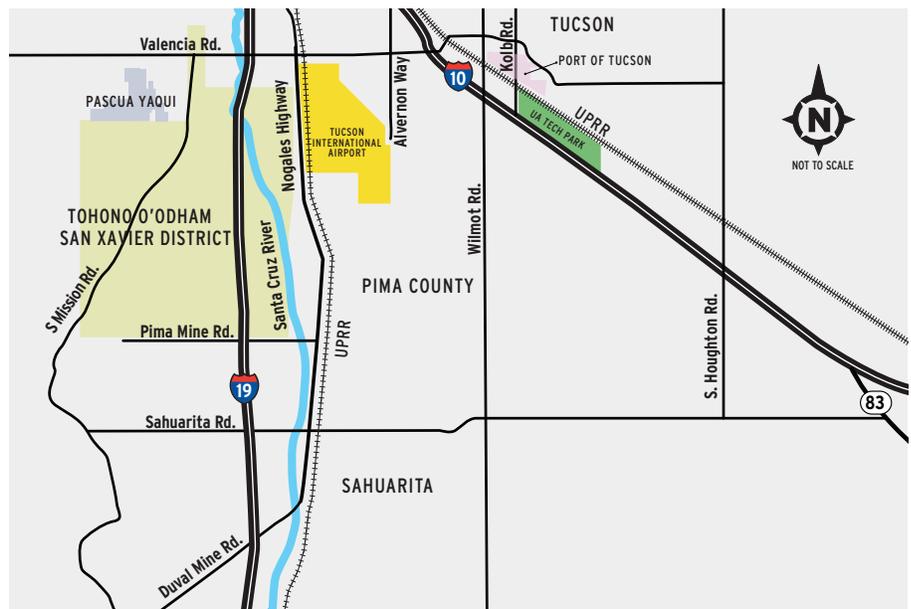
TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

ABOUT THE SONORAN CORRIDOR

In partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has begun a three-year environmental study to select a corridor location for the Sonoran Corridor, a proposed new transportation facility that would connect Interstate 10 (I-10) and Interstate 19 (I-19) south of the Tucson International Airport.

STUDY GOALS

- To identify the Sonoran Corridor as a high-capacity future transportation facility that would provide a link between I-10 and I-19 to enhance the efficiency of both commercial and passenger vehicle traffic in Southern Arizona.
- To establish a multimodal corridor, with the potential to enhance the movement of people and freight, support economic development and be a corridor for trade, communications and technology.
- To reach a consensus on a Selected Corridor Alternative as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).



THE STUDY PROCESS

In May 2017, FHWA and ADOT initiated the study for the Sonoran Corridor, a proposed new corridor that would connect I-10 and I-19 south of the Tucson International Airport. The Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared as part of the process to establish a preferred corridor alternative, including a “no build” option, in accordance with NEPA and other regulatory requirements. A separate Corridor Selection Report (CSR) will be prepared to help identify a range of reasonable alternatives that will be brought into the EIS for further study. The Tier 1 EIS also will compare the “no-build” option against the range of reasonable alternatives. The process will include engaging and involving stakeholder agencies, organizations and the public throughout the study.

CORRIDOR STUDY VICINITY

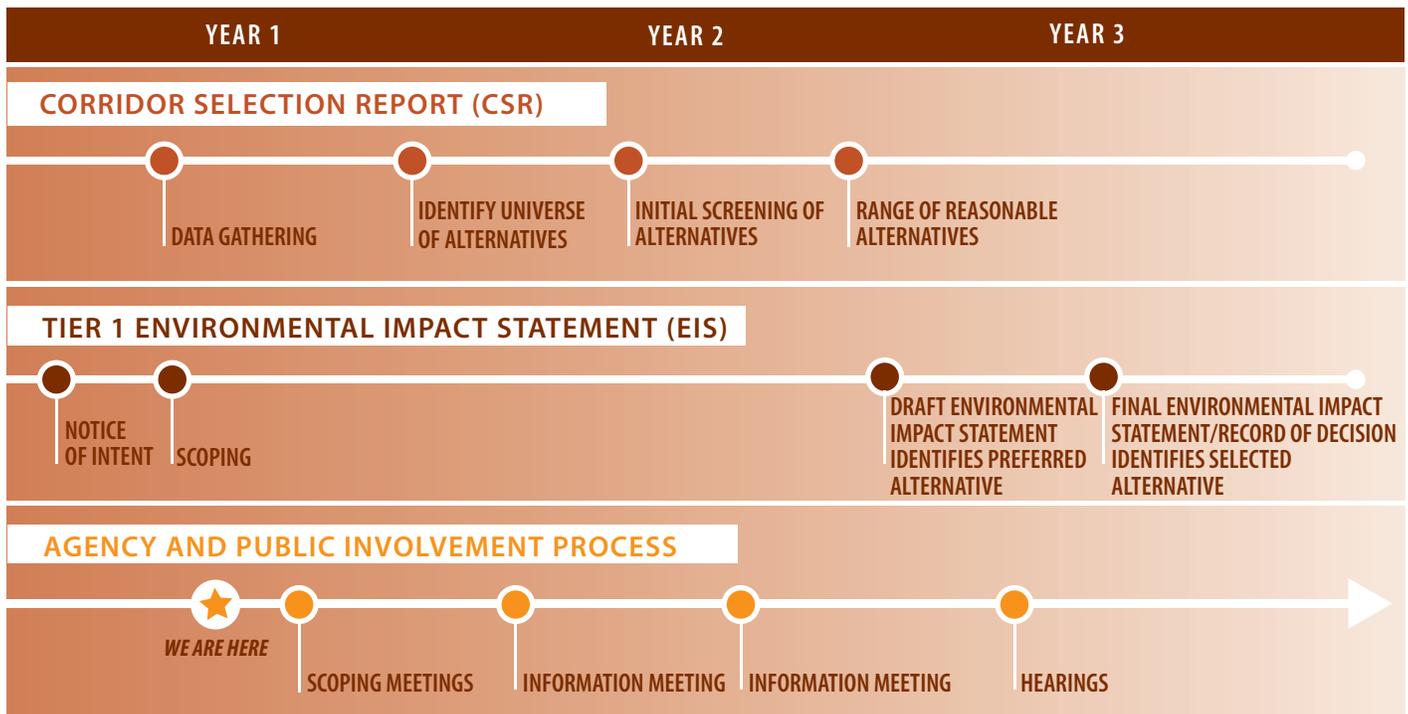
The Sonoran Corridor Tier 1 EIS Study Team is looking at potential 2,000-foot-wide corridors between I-10 and I-19 in the vicinity south of the Tucson International Airport to the southern boundary of the Town of Sahuarita.

ABOUT THE TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)

A Tier 1 EIS allows a federal agency to prepare a document that analyzes a program or large project on a broad scale. The initial phase of the study consists of a Corridor Selection Report, which assesses a wide range of corridor alternatives and options through a robust process that includes addressing environmental, geographical, socio-economic factors and other issues important in the study process to help identify a range of reasonable alternatives.

A public and agency involvement process will help the study team establish project needs, identify a range of reasonable alternatives and ultimately the preferred alternative. The study team will identify potential 2000-foot-wide corridors into which a more defined, specified alignment may fit. The Tier 1 Draft EIS will document the environmental considerations related to the range of reasonable alternatives and the “no-build” alternative to identify the preferred alternative.

SONORAN CORRIDOR STUDY PROCESS AND SCHEDULE



HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

ADOT and the FHWA will engage and involve stakeholder agencies, organizations and members of the community throughout the study process. Opportunities to comment will be available through meetings and other forms of public outreach.

ADOT will hold public scoping meetings on the Sonoran Corridor Tier 1 EIS in Tucson at the *Radisson Hotel Tucson Airport on June 7 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.* and in Sahuarita at the *Santa Cruz Valley United Methodist Church on June 8 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.* to share information about the study and gather input that will help inform the process to identify the initial range of corridor alternatives.

The initial range of alternatives will be the focus of the first of two public meetings in late summer/early fall. A second public meeting in early 2018 will provide the opportunity to comment on the range of reasonable alternatives. The study team will then present a preferred alternative in the draft EIS at a public hearing in late 2018/ early 2019.



azdot.gov/sonorancorridor



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