

May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011

1  
2  
3 **To:** Damon Ballesteros  
4 Project Manager  
5 Pima County Department of Transportation  
6 201 North Stone Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
7 Tucson, Arizona 85701  
8

9 **From:** JP Charpentier  
10 URS Corporation  
11 333 East Wetmore Road, Suite 400  
12 Tucson, Arizona 85705  
13

14 **RE: Valencia Road: Alvernon Way to Wilmot Road – Environmental Screening**  
15 **Results Memorandum**  
16

---

17  
18 **Project Information**

19 Project Name: Valencia Road: Alvernon Way to Wilmot Road  
20 Pima County Project #: 4VAKDP  
21 Project Manager: Damon Ballesteros  
22

23 **Background**

24 The Pima County Department of Transportation (PCDOT) in cooperation with the Regional  
25 Transportation Authority (RTA) proposes to widen approximately three miles of Valencia Road  
26 between Alvernon Way and Wilmot Road from a four-lane arterial roadway into a six-lane  
27 arterial roadway (Figure 1). The Intra-Government Agreement (IGA) with the RTA calls for this  
28 project to be completed in one phase. Once completed, this project, in conjunction with three  
29 other RTA funded projects on Valencia Road, will serve as the major east-west arterial corridor  
30 that links Houghton Road/I-10 in the east to I-19 in the west.  
31

32 This project includes the conceptual design resulting in a Design Concept Report (DCR) for the  
33 roadway improvements from approximately 900 feet east of Alvernon Way to 1,000 feet east of  
34 Wilmot Road and an Environmental Assessment and Mitigation Report (EAMR) for the roadway  
35 improvements. Construction of the Valencia Road project is planned for the 2012 to 2016  
36 implementation period of the 20 year RTA plan.  
37

38 **Project Setting**

39 The project area is located along Valencia Road from approximately 900 feet east of Alvernon  
40 Way to 1,000 feet east of Wilmot Road (Figure 2). The typical project right-of-way is 150 feet to  
41 250 feet wide. Analysis for the environmental screening included a study area of at least 1000  
42 feet from the centerline of Valencia Road. Certain project resources such as hazardous materials  
43 and special status species were examined to a distance of one mile and three miles, respectively.  
44 The Project area is Township 15 South, Range 14 East, Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15;  
45 Township 15 South, Range 15 East, Section 7 (Figure 3).

1  
2 The land use adjacent to Valencia Road is a mix of moderate- to high-density residential  
3 neighborhoods; undeveloped land; commercial/industrial; the Union Pacific rail line; and  
4 institutional properties. Other land uses in the project area also include parks; a community  
5 center; fire stations; and Davis Monthan Air Force Base. Between Alvernon Way and I-10, land  
6 use is primarily medium- to high-density residential neighborhoods, gas stations,  
7 vacant/undeveloped land, and Desert View High School. Land use between I-10 and Wilmot  
8 Road is a mix of medium- to high-density residential neighborhoods; vacant/undeveloped land;  
9 Chevron/Jack In The Box; Arizona Army National Guard training center; Pima Air and Space  
10 Museum; and the Union Pacific Rail Road (UPRR). Thomas Jay Littleton Regional Park is  
11 located south of Valencia Road along with the Julian Wash Linear Park.

12  
13 Zoning ordinances and land use regulations for the project area fall within the jurisdictions of  
14 both Pima County and the City of Tucson. The existing zoning designations for the project area  
15 in Pima County include: Residential (TH, CR-3, CR-4, and CMH-1); Business (CB-2); Industrial  
16 (CI-1 and CI-2). Existing City of Tucson zoning regulations for the project area include: Single-  
17 Family Urban Residential Low Density (including schools and parks) (R-1), Single-Family  
18 Urban Residential Medium Density (R-2), Commercial (C-2), and Light Industrial (I-1).

## 19 20 **Proposed Project**

21 The project will construct two additional travel lanes (1 eastbound lane, 1 westbound lane),  
22 raised medians, left-turn lanes, and signalized intersections that will concentrate turning  
23 movements, thereby improving traffic operation and reducing the number of potential collisions  
24 along the corridor. The project will provide an all-weather travel surface for the road through  
25 construction of drainage improvements including cross-drainage improvements and a stormwater  
26 collection and conveyance system. The project will also improve mobility through the provision  
27 of a multi-use lane and meet ADA requirements. It is expected that the additional lanes can be  
28 designed within the existing right of way, and no additional horizontal or vertical alignment  
29 work will be needed.

30 The project includes the construction of the following specific improvements:

- 31 • Widen Valencia Road from a four-lane roadway to a six-lane roadway (three lanes  
32 eastbound and three lanes westbound) from approximately 900 feet east of Alvernon Way  
33 to 1,000 feet east of Wilmot Road.
- 34 • Design speed for this project is 50 mph and will be posted for 45 mph.
- 35 • Construct raised medians throughout the length of the project.
- 36 • Concentrating turning movements by the construct of turning lanes at Valencia Road and  
37 Craycroft Road; and Valencia Road and Wilmot Road.
- 38 • Widen Valencia Road at the I-10 underpass from a four-lane roadway to a six-lane  
39 roadway.
- 40 • Widen the existing bridge at the UPRR crossing from a four-lane roadway to a six-lane  
41 roadway.

- 1 • Construct a new eastbound right turn lane at the eastern Jack in the Box driveway, east of
- 2 I-10.
- 3 • Install a traffic signal at the intersection of Valencia Road and Littletown Road.
- 4 • Improve and expand existing stormwater drainage system.
- 5 • Construct bicycle/multi-use lane on both sides of Valencia Road between Alvernon Way
- 6 and Wilmot Road.
- 7 • Construct sidewalks along both sides of Valencia Road throughout the project area.
- 8     o Sidewalks, crosswalks, and access ramps will be ADA-compliant.
- 9 • Install landscape improvements and public art within project medians and along the
- 10 shoulders to the right-of-way limit.

11 **Methods**

12 Multiple sources were consulted to complete the environmental screening inventory for the  
13 project. Sources include the RTA Implementation Plan, project scope of work, project technical  
14 reports, project team discussions, field reviews, the Pima County Geographic Information  
15 System (MapGuide), and aerial photography. These sources were reviewed to provide an initial  
16 indication of potential environmental impacts to the surrounding physical, social, and economic  
17 environment that may result from construction and operation of the project.

18 The project will require:

- 19 • Drainage
- 20 • Clean Water Act 404/401 permitting, and Clean Water Act Section 402 permitting
- 21 • 100-Year Floodplain
- 22 • Biological Resources
- 23 • Air Quality
- 24 • Noise Levels
- 25 • Hazardous Materials
- 26 • Historical Preservation
- 27 • Neighborhood/Public Involvement

28 **Drainage**

29 The existing storm drainage system along Valencia Road consists of storm drainage pipes under  
30 Valencia Road that outlet to storm drain channels that parallel Valencia Road west of I-10. Storm  
31 water from Valencia Road west of I-10 discharges into an existing off-site detention basin  
32 located on an Arizona State Land Department parcel, southeast of the Valencia Road/Alvernon

1 Way intersection. West of I-10 stormwater from Valencia Road outlets into two storm drainage  
2 channels that discharges into the Julian Wash. The project will be designed to improve the  
3 current capacity of the storm drainage system, with the addition of larger pipes and culverts,  
4 while allowing for the basic configuration of the storm drainage system to remain largely  
5 unchanged.

6 Two named washes (the Earp Wash and Julian Wash) and three storm drain channels cross  
7 Valencia Road in the project area. Preliminary site reconnaissance indicates that these drainages  
8 are Waters of the United States (Waters). A jurisdictional delineation will be completed to  
9 ascertain the location and extent of Waters within the project area. Work within Waters is  
10 anticipated to affect less than 0.5 acre at each crossing and, therefore, would be covered by a  
11 Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 Nationwide Permit (NWP) #14. Should impacts to Waters  
12 exceed 0.5 acre at a crossing, a CWA Section 404 Individual Permit would be required.

### 13 **Clean Water Act 401/404 permitting, and Clean Water Act Section 402 permitting**

14 Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 water quality permit would be included under a Nation  
15 Wide Permit #14. If a CWA Section 404 Individual Permit is required, an individual Section 401  
16 water quality permit would be required from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
17 (ADEQ). ACWA Section 402 authorization is required because the project will disturb more  
18 than 1 acre of land. Compliance with the permit can be obtained by filing a Notice of Intent  
19 (NOI) with ADEQ to use the statewide Construction General Permit, along with the preparation  
20 and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

### 21 **100-Year Floodplain**

22 Two Flood Insurance Rate Maps (Map Number: 04019C2245K and 04019C2265K) were  
23 reviewed and showed that the project is in areas designated as Zones A and A0 at the following  
24 locations:

- 25 • Zone A [Earp Wash area]
- 26 • Zone X [I-10 to UPRR tracks]

27 The project will not substantially modify the topography of the floodplain either by placement or  
28 removal of materials within the floodplain. There is no anticipated change in the flood elevation.

### 29 **Biological Resources**

30 The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)  
31 will be contacted for input during the preparation of the biological evaluation. Based on a review  
32 of the USFWS list of threatened and endangered species for Pima County by a qualified  
33 biologist, there are no endangered and/or threatened species issues for the project. A Technical  
34 Assistance letter documenting effects on federally listed species for the project will be requested  
35 from the USFWS.

36 A vegetation survey and mitigation plan of the project area will be completed in accordance with  
37 Chapter 4 – Environmentally Sensitive Roadway of the Pima County *Roadway Design Manual*.

1 The project will impact regulated riparian habitat protected under the Pima County Riparian  
2 Ordinance. Impacts to regulated riparian habitat will be assessed in coordination with Pima  
3 County Regional Flood Control District.

4 Buffelgrass [invasive plant species] is found largely with in the right of way and drainages  
5 adjacent to the project area and could be disturbed during construction. A Buffelgrass  
6 Eradication plan would be completed to address treatment of existing infested areas.

7 **Air Quality**

8 Work associated with widening of the bridge at the UPRR and at the I-10 underpass may require  
9 completion of a National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP).

10 The contractor will need to apply for an air quality/dust control permit through the Pima County  
11 Department of Environmental Quality for the bridge demolition work.

12 **Noise Levels**

13 The project is locally funded and falls under the Pima County noise policy, which considers  
14 noise mitigation when noise levels reach 66 dBA or greater. A 3 dBA noise reduction credit is  
15 given for the use of rubberized asphalt as a roadway surface treatment. A noise analysis will be  
16 completed to determine future noise levels in the project area. While it is possible that future  
17 noise levels will exceed 66 dBA for residences closest to the road, feasibility issues, such as the  
18 need for adequate sight distance and driveway openings, as well as Pima County policy may  
19 limit the ability to provide noise barriers.

20 \*It should also be noted that the project is also located in the Davis Monthon Air Force Base  
21 flight path and noise overlay zone.

22 **Hazardous Materials**

23 A Preliminary Initial Site Assessment (PISA) has been completed for the project. Previous PISA  
24 studies which overlap onto portions of the project area indicate that past and present land uses in  
25 the project vicinity have involved the salvage of military aircraft, munitions, and related  
26 equipment.

27 No recognized environmental conditions (RECs) were observed within the existing right-of-way.  
28 Potential hazardous waste sites occur within the project vicinity, should new right-of-way or  
29 easements be acquired, a Phase 1 ESA should be completed prior to acquisition. It should be  
30 noted that numerous concrete culverts and storm drains (beneath Valencia Road) occur. Concrete  
31 manufactured prior to 1985 may contain asbestos. In addition, features or structures suspected of  
32 containing lead-based paint (LBP) such as road stripping may be encountered in the project area.  
33 To determine proper disposal methods, sampling of suspect asbestos-containing concrete  
34 culverts installed prior to 1985, and any structures containing suspect LBP materials should be  
35 completed prior to demolition or removal.

36 **Historic Preservation**

37 During the cultural resources survey, SWCA Environmental Consultants identified three  
38 previously recorded National Registered of Historic Places (NRHP), one newly recorded site and

1 10 isolated occurrences.. None of the sites surveyed that are listed or eligible to be listed in the  
2 National Register of Historic Places will be affected by the project.

3 SWCA recommends a finding of *no historic properties affect* for this project.

4 Note: Isolated Occurrence number 10, is a road side memorial and should be treated in  
5 accordance with PCDOT's procedures. It is recommended that a pre-construction survey of the  
6 project route be completed to locate any memorials

7 **Neighborhood and Public Involvement**

8 Agency scoping meetings will be scheduled prior to the 60 percent design phase. The  
9 Community Advisory Committee (CAC) has been formed. Up to six CAC meetings are planned  
10 as part of the public involvement process during the preparation of the DCR, EAMR, and Final  
11 Design. To date, three CAC meetings have been held: February 22, 2011, April 19, 2011 and  
12 May 17, 2011. A fourth meeting is planned on June 8, 2011. The first of two public open houses  
13 was held on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and a second on June 8, 2011.

14 **Environmental Documents**

15 Valencia Road is designated by Pima County as an Environmentally Sensitive Roadway; the  
16 project will include assessment and mitigation tools described in Pima County Environmentally  
17 Sensitive Roadway Guidelines. The following technical documents will be completed for the  
18 project: DCR, EAMR, noise analysis, jurisdictional delineation, biological evaluation, PISA,  
19 vegetation surveys, releve reports, riparian habitat impact analysis, visual resource inventory,  
20 and cultural resources report. Clean Water Act Section 404/402/401 permitting will be initiated  
21 for each project phase after Stage III design is complete. No additional environmental issues  
22 were identified during the environmental screening process.

23 **Attachments:**

24 Attachment A – Environmental Screening: Questionnaire for Establishing Potential Areas of  
25 Impact

26 Attachment B – Environmental Screening Summary Impact Matrix

27  
28



1 improving traffic operation and reducing the number of potential collisions along the corridor.  
2 The project will provide an all-weather travel surface for the road through construction of  
3 drainage improvements including cross-drainage improvements; and an updated stormwater  
4 collection and conveyance system. The project will also improve pedestrian mobility through the  
5 provision of six foot sidewalks and six foot multi-use lane for bicycle access. These amenities  
6 will be located on the north and south side of Valencia road. The project will also provide for an  
7 expanded bridge crossing at the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) overpass. Primary purpose of  
8 project:

9 *Modernize roadway (e.g., resurface, restore, rehabilitate, reconstruct, add shoulders, or add*  
10 *auxiliary lanes): Yes*

11 Valencia Road is considered to be a key, east-west corridor in the RTA plan. The project  
12 will improve traffic flow and increase mobility to Tucson International Airport and  
13 business/industrial parks.

14 *Increase capacity: Yes*

15 Projects will expand through traffic on a continuous east-west corridor in the urban core  
16 of Tucson, from I-10/to Houghton Road to I-19.

17 *Add bicycle lanes: Yes*

18 Six foot multi-use paths will be added on each side of the road, through the whole  
19 project.

20 *Improve safety: Yes*

21 The improved safety element will include: intersection and capacity improvements; ;  
22 transit corridor bus pullouts; signal technology upgrades; improvements to existing  
23 railroad crossing and bridges and pedestrian safety.

24 *Other: Yes*

25 Sidewalks will be added the entire length of the project to improve pedestrian safety and  
26 will comply the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements for  
27 pedestrian crossings and transit stops.

28 Source: Regional Transportation Authority Implementation Plan and project team discussions

## 29 **Existing Conditions within Project Limits**

- 30 • Roadway specifications:

31 *Right-of-way: Varies: 150 feet – 250 feet*

32 *Pavement width: 26 feet [eastbound] 26 feet [westbound]*

33 *Number of through lanes in each direction: 2*

- 34 • Number of turning lanes:

35 *Right-turn lanes: 10*

36 *Left-turn lanes: 21*

- 37 • Existing intersections:

1                    *Number of signalized intersections: 5*

- 2                    1. Valencia Road at Desert View High School (Half Signal)
- 3                    2. Valencia Road at Swan Road /Benson Highway
- 4                    3. Valencia Road at I-10 [Exit 267 eastbound off-ramp/westbound on-ramp] Arizona
- 5                    Department of Transportation (ADOT) jurisdiction]
- 6                    4. Valencia Road at I-10 [Exit 267 westbound off-ramp/eastbound on-ramp] (ADOT)]
- 7                    5. Valencia Road at Wilmot Road [located inside City of Tucson (COT) boundary]

8                    *Number of unsignalized intersections: 4*

- 9                    1. Valencia Road at Columbus Boulevard
- 10                   2. Valencia Road at Mesquite Desert Trail
- 11                   3. Valencia Road at Littletown Road
- 12                   4. Valencia Road at Craycroft Road [west side of intersection located in COT boundary]

- 13                   • Existing parking (e.g., on-street): No
- 14                   • Existing bicycle lanes: Yes
- 15                          Two six foot multi-use paths, one in each direction.

- 16                   • Existing sidewalk: Yes, intermittent.
- 17                   • Existing transit stop: Yes

18                          SunTran Route 26; Valencia Road between Alvernon Way and Littletown Road

- 19                   • Other: Yes
- 20                          1. Union Pacific Railroad underpass located at existing four-lane Bridge.
- 21                          2. Valencia Road (four-lane) underpass at I-10.

22                   Source: Pima County MapGuide accessed December 6, 2010, January 10, 2011, and March 31,

23                   2011; and project team discussions.

24                   **Project Components**

- 25                   • Anticipated specifications of the project:

26                          *Amount of additional right-of-way to be acquired: None*

27                   Proposed roadway widening is anticipated to occur within existing right-of-way. Drainage

28                   easements and temporary construction easements may be required. Location and dimensions

29                   of easements will be available in the Stage I Design Plans/Design Concept Report and

30                   Environmental Assessment and Mitigation Report.

31                          *Change in the vertical or horizontal alignment: None*

32                          *New alignment: None*

- 1        *Pavement width to be added:* 13 feet eastbound and 13 feet westbound.
- 2        *Number of through lanes to be added:* Two, one in each direction.
- 3        *Number of turn lanes to be added:* None anticipated. Proposed design would match existing  
4 conditions. However, new turn lanes could be added depending on the result of the traffic  
5 analysis.
- 6        *Right-turn lanes:* None
- 7        *Left-turn lanes:* None
- 8        *Any associated parking (e.g., on-street):* No
- 9        *Bicycle lanes to be added:* Yes
- 10       6-foot-wide multi-use lanes will be added in both directions of Valencia Road between  
11 Alvernon Way and Wilmot Road. Lanes will be located within striped shoulders.
- 12       *Sidewalk to be added:* Yes
- 13       1. Proposed design would add 6-foot sidewalks adjacent to the back of curb on both sides  
14 of the roadway.
- 15       2. Sidewalks, crosswalks, and access ramps will be ADA compliant.
- 16       *Landscaping to be added:* Yes
- 17       *Number of intersections to be signalized:* 5
- 18       1. Valencia Road at Desert View High School (Half Signal)
- 19       2. Valencia Road at Benson Highway/Swan Road
- 20       3. Valencia Road at I-10 [Exit 267 eastbound off-ramp/westbound on-ramp]
- 21       4. Valencia Road at I-10 [Exit 267 westbound off-ramp/eastbound on-ramp]
- 22       5. Valencia Road at Wilmot Road (COT boundary).
- 23       *Other:*
- 24       Signalization of Valencia Road at Littleton Road will be investigated.
- 25       Source: Regional Transportation Authority Implementation Plan and project team discussions.

## 26       **Phasing**

27       Is this project:

- 28       *A portion or phase of a unified development plan:* No
- 29       *One of a series of projects that may result in a cumulative set of environmental impacts*  
30 *on an identifiable area:* Yes

31       This project is part of three other projects to improve the Valencia Road corridor  
32 eastward from I-19 to Houghton Road, including:

- 33       1. RTA Project #21 Valencia Road: Wade Road to Mark Road.

1                   2. RTA Project #23 Valencia Road: I-19 to Alvernon Road (Controlled Access  
2                   Improvements).

3                   3. RTA Project #25 Valencia Road: Kolb Road to Houghton Road.

4                   When completed, the Valencia Road corridor will have been improved from Wade Road  
5                   east to Houghton Road. The projects are scheduled to occur over a 25-year period,  
6                   culminating in approximately, 2026.

7                   Source: Regional Transportation Authority Implementation Plan

8                   **Traffic:**

- 9                   • Existing average daily traffic (ADT) in the project area (2010/2011):

10                   Valencia Road [Alvernon Way to Interstate 10] = 26,488

11                   Valencia Road [Interstate 10 to Wilmot Road] = 24,613

12                   Valencia Road [East of Wilmot Road] = 27,623

- 13                   • Projected ADT in the project area for the build year (2035):

14                   Valencia Road [Alvernon Way to Interstate 10] = 42,400

15                   Valencia Road [Interstate 10 to Wilmot Road] = 39,400

16                   Valencia Road [East of Wilmot Road] = 43,200

17                   Source: Pima County Department of Transportation, Draft Traffic Analysis Report.

18                   **Land Uses**

- 19                   • Existing adjacent land uses:

20                   *Commercial (e.g., retail businesses, service businesses):* Yes

21                   1. Diamond Shamrock, 4865 E. Valencia, CB-2

22                   2. Chevron/Jack in the Box, 5000 S. Valencia, CB-2

23                   *Institutional (e.g., schools, hospitals, social services agencies):* Yes

24                   1. Desert View High School, 4101 E. Valencia Road, City R-1

25                   2. Davis Monthan Air Force Base, City I-1

26                   3. Arizona Army National Guard, 5500 E. Valencia Road, City I-1

27                   4. Pima Air and Space Museum, 6000 E. Valencia Road, City I-1

28                   *Residential (e.g., single family houses, apartments, townhouses):* Yes

29                   1. Desert Vista Terrace Subdivision [East of Desert View High School] City R-2

30                   2. "Town and Country RV and Mobile Home Park"- Traile Rancho Estates Platted  
31                   Subdivision [East of Desert Vista Terrace] TH

32                   3. Valstate II Subdivision [Valencia Road east of Swan Road] CR-4

33                   4. Empire Vista Subdivision [Littleton Road east of Valencia Road] CR-3

1            Project Vicinity 1/2 mile

- 2            1. Tucson Fire Department, Station No. 22, 6810 S. Alvernon Way  
3            2. Rural/Metro Fire Department, Station No. 71, 4445 E. Benson Highway  
4            3. Lauffer Middle School, 5385 E. Littletown Road  
5            4. Craycroft Elementary School, 5455 E. Littletown Road  
6

7 *Vacant lots:* Yes, a total of 17 undeveloped parcels:  
8

- 9            1. Parcel: 140-41-1400, 470 acres, Arizona State Lands Department south of Valencia  
10            Road east of Alvernon Way.  
11            2. Parcel 140-32-006B, 10.5 acres, private parcel, 4545 E. Valencia Road, north of  
12            Valencia Road west of Benson Highway.  
13            3. Parcel: 140-32-007D, 5.32 acres, private parcel, no assigned street address, north of  
14            Valencia Road and west of Benson Highway.  
15            4. Parcel: 140-36-007A, 5.04 acres, private parcel, 4711 E. Valencia Road, north of  
16            Valencia Road west of I-10.  
17            5. Parcel: 140-36-0060, 26.32 acres, private parcel, 4810 E. I-10, north of Valencia  
18            Road and west of the I-10 267 Exit Ramp.  
19            6. Parcel: 140-39-8750, 2.58 acres, private parcel, no assigned street address, Valstate  
20            HOA Common Area, south of Valencia Road and west of the I-10 267 On Ramp.  
21            7. Parcel: 140-39-043B, 3.08 acres, private parcel, no assigned street address,, adjacent  
22            to W. I-10 Exit ramp, south of Valencia Road, parcel has no direct access to Valencia  
23            Road.  
24            8. Parcel: 140-39-043D, 1 acre, private parcel, 5030 E. Valencia Road, south of  
25            Valencia Road and east of Chevron/ Jack in the Box Restaurant.  
26            9. Parcel: 140-39-0420, 7.71 acres, private parcel, no assigned street address, south of  
27            Valencia Road and bordering the Empire Heights Home Owners Association  
28            common area to the west.  
29            10. Parcel: 140-36-0050, 148.30 acres, private parcel, 4975 E. Benson Highway. The  
30            parcel is split by Valencia Road. The northern section of parcel is bordered on the  
31            east by the Julian Wash and west by west bound I-10 and south by Valencia Road.  
32            The southern section of the parcel is bound to the north by Valencia Road, south by  
33            Littletown Road and Lauffer Middle School to the east.  
34            11. Parcel: 140-36-004C, 100.51 acres, private parcel, 4743 E. Frontage Road, north of  
35            Valencia Road, west of Union Pacific Railroad.  
36            12. Parcels: 140-36-004J, 3.41 acres, 5280 E. Valencia Road; 140-36-004G, 3.27 acres;  
37            140-36-004E, 2.73 acres; 140-36-004F, 2.84 acres; and 140-36-004H, 2.84 acres;  
38            areas are held by Pima County. In total, the 5 parcels are 15 acres of undeveloped-  
39            subdivided land and are located south of Valencia Road north of Littletown Road.

- 1 13. Parcel: 140-36-0100, 5.80 acres, private parcel, no assigned address, south of
- 2 Valencia Road and north of the Union Pacific Railroad.
- 3 14. Parcel: 140-36-0010, 166.13 acres, private parcel, 5900 S. Craycroft Road, north of
- 4 Valencia Road and west of Craycroft Road.
- 5 15. Parcel: 140-36-013B, 34.43 acres, private parcel, no assigned address, south of
- 6 Valencia Road and west of Wilmot Road.
- 7 16. Parcel: 140-36-013A, 39.05 acres, private parcel, no assigned address, south of
- 8 Valencia Road and west of Wilmot Road.
- 9 17. Parcel: 141-03-024D, 9.73 acres, private parcel, 6195 and 6201 S. Wilmot Road,
- 10 south of Valencia Road and east of Wilmot Road.

11  
12 *Industrial (e.g., light industry, heavy industry):* Light industry

- 13 1. Union Pacific Railroad crosses Valencia Road north of Littletown Road.
- 14 2. Unisource Energy Corporation, easement adjacent to west side of Union Pacific
- 15 Railroad line and north of Valencia Road.
- 16 3. Amelco Inc., 5951 S. Wilmot Road
- 17 4. Venco Inc., 6001 S. Wilmot Road

18 Project Vicinity

- 19 1. Tucson Development Inc., 6450 E. Valencia Road.
- 20 2. HDS Truck Driving Institute, 6251 S. Wilmot Road.

21 *Recreational (e.g., parks, sports fields):* Yes [in project vicinity]

- 22 1. Thomas Jay Littletown Regional Park, 6465 S. Craycroft Road

23 *Others:* Yes

24 Project Vicinity

- 25 1. Littletown Community Center, 6465 S. Craycroft Road

26 Source: Pima County MapGuide accessed December 6, 2010, and January 10, 2011.

## 27 **Property Ownership**

- 28 • Existing land ownership:

29 *Majority public:* No

- 30 1. United States Air Force, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base
- 31 2. Arizona Army National Guard
- 32 3. Arizona State Lands Department
- 33 4. Arizona Department of Transportation
- 34 5. Pima County



1 Section 401 will be completed under the 404 permit.

2 Section 404 Nationwide Permit 14 is anticipated.

3 Source: Project team discussions, field survey conducted on 7, October 2010

#### 4 **Floodplain**

5 • Is the project area within a 100-year floodplain delineated on the Federal Emergency  
6 Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map: Yes

7 1. Zone A [Earp Wash area]

8 2. Zone Z [ I-10 to UPRR tracks]

9 If “yes,” will the project substantially modify the topography of the floodplain either  
10 by placement or removal of materials within the floodplain: No

11 Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency Map Service Center accessed 6 Decemeber,  
12 2010. (Map Number: 04019C2245K and 04019C2265K)

#### 13 **Biological Resources**

14 • Are there listed threatened, endangered, proposed, and/or candidate species likely to be found  
15 in the project vicinity: No

16 1. Pima Pineapple Cactus; ESA listed endangered – no habitat in project area; no  
17 cacti detected during field survey on 7 October 2010.

18 2. Lesser Long-nosed Bat; ESA listed threatened – no habitat in project area  
19 detected during field survey on 7 October 2010.

20 • Are listed special status species likely to be found in the project vicinity: No

21 1. Western Burrowing Owl; Migratory Bird Treaty Act – no habitat in project area;  
22 no owls or burrows detected during field survey on 7 October 2010.

23 2. Cliff Swallow; Migratory Bird Treaty Act – no birds or indices of nesting found  
24 under bridges or drainage features during survey on 7 October 2010.

25 3. Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl; State Sensitive Species – no habitat in project  
26 area. No owls detected during 2009 survey completed by EEC Inc.

27 4. Bats; State Sensitive Species – no bats or indices of bat roosting found under  
28 bridges or drainage features during survey on 7 October 2010.

29 • Are protected native plants likely to be found in the project vicinity: Yes

30 1. Preliminary field survey found creosote-bursage desertscrub with scattered  
31 elements of Sonoran paloverde-mixed cactus desertscrub. Vegetation survey of  
32 the project area will be completed in accordance with Chapter 4 Environmentally  
33 Sensitive Roadway of the Pima County *Roadway Design Manual*.

34 • Are construction activities anticipated to remove/disturb any vegetation: Yes

1 1. Roadway widening and drainage improvements are anticipated to remove/disturb  
2 vegetation.

3 2. Buffelgrass [invasive plant species] is found in the project area and could be  
4 disturbed during construction. A Buffelgrass Eradication plan would be completed to  
5 address treatment of infested areas.

6 • Is the project within the Conservation Land System: No

7 Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Arizona Ecological Services website accessed  
8 September 13, 2010; Arizona Game and Fish Department On-line Environmental Review  
9 Tool accessed September 13, 2010; Pima County MapGuide accessed September 13,  
10 2010; Field Surveys 7 October 2010; CFPO Survey 2009.

## 11 **Air Quality**

12 • Is the project in an:

13 *Attainment Area:* Yes

14 *Nonattainment Area:* No

15 *Maintenance area:* Yes, CO Attainment Area with Limited Maintenance Plan.

16 Emission Sources: Vehicular emissions:

17 Status: The Carbon Monoxide (CO) Limited Maintenance Plan (LMP) developed by the  
18 Pima Association of Governments (PAG) for the Tucson Air Planning Area (TAPA) was  
19 submitted by ADEQ to U.S. EPA in 1996 and updated in 1997. The TAPA was  
20 designated to CO attainment status by U.S. EPA, effective July 10, 2000. The 2008  
21 Revision to the Carbon Monoxide Limited Maintenance Plan for the Tucson Air Planning  
22 Area, developed by PAG, was submitted by ADEQ to U.S. EPA by July 10, 2008.

23 Work associated with widening of the bridge at the UPRR and at the I-10 underpass may  
24 require completion of a National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants  
25 (NESHAP).

26 The contractor will need to apply for an air quality/dust control permit through the Pima  
27 County Department of Environmental Quality for the bridge demolition work.

28 Source: Pima Association of Governments and 2008 Revision to the Carbon Monoxide Limited  
29 Maintenance Plan for the Tucson Air Planning Area 2010

## 30 **Noise**

31 • Are there sensitive noise receptors in the area: Yes

32 *Residences:* Multiple homes within master-planned communities are located within the  
33 project study area.

34 *Schools:* 3

35 1. Desert View High School

- 1           2. Lauffer Middle School  
2           3. Craycroft Elementary School

3           *Hospitals: No*

4           *Churches: No*

5           *Parks: Yes*

- 6           1. Thomas Jay Littleton Regional Park

7           *Others: No*

- 8           • When the project is completed and used as anticipated, is it likely to contribute to any  
9           exceedances of noise quality standards: No

10          *Note: A portion of the project is located in the Davis Monthon Air Force Base flight path and*  
11          *noise overlay zone.*

12          Source: Pima County MapGuide December 6, 2010, <http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/index.html>

### 13          **Utilities**

- 14          • Will the construction include any utility involvement:

15                 *Utility relocation: Yes*

16                 *Temporary disconnection of service: Yes*

17                 *Utility replacement: No*

- 18          • Are there any scheduled plans for utility upgrades in the vicinity that are not related to the  
19          project: Coordination efforts are currently underway with utility providers.

20          Source: Project team discussions

### 21          **Hazardous Materials**

- 22          • Is it likely that any hazardous wastes or hazardous substances in the past have been  
23          generated, treated, stored, released, discarded or disposed of on site or are any such wastes  
24          now accumulated on site: No

25                 No recognized environmental conditions (RECs) were observed within the existing right-  
26                 of-way. Potential hazardous waste sites occur within the project vicinity, should new  
27                 right-of-way or easements be acquired, a Phase 1 ESA should be completed prior to  
28                 acquisition.

- 29          • Have any test borings been performed: Yes.

30                 Soil borings are being completed as part of the geotechnical investigations for the project.  
31                 To date, no contaminated soils were detected.

1 Source: Project team discussions

2 **Historic Preservation**

- 3 • Are there any cultural resources (archaeological or historic) in the vicinity of the project area  
4 that are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places: Yes

5 NRHP Eligibility: Previously Determined Eligible:

- 6 1. AZ AA:12:875(ASM)- El Paso Natural Gas Line No.1007  
7 2. AZ BB:13:577(ASM)- El Paso &Southwestern Railroad (EP&SW)  
8 3. AZ FF:917(ASM)- Former U.S. Highway 80 and State Route 80

9 NRHP Eligibility: Recommended Not Eligible:

- 10 1. AZ BB:13:816(ASM)-Newly Recorded Site.

11 Site is located on County-owned parcels: 140-36-004J, 140-36-004G, 140-36-004E, 140-  
12 36-004F, and 140-36-004H, bounded by Valencia Road to the northwest and the UPRR  
13 to the northeast. Ten Isolated Occurrences (IOs) where recorded during pedestrian  
14 survey.

- 15 • Are any of these sites considered “Priority Cultural Resources”: No  
16 • Of those properties listed or eligible, are any located near enough to the project to be affected  
17 by the project location, construction, or anticipated future traffic: Yes

18 One road side memorial was located within the survey boundaries of AZ BB: 13:816(ASM).  
19 PCDOT will follow special procedures, should the memorial be disturbed.

- 20 • Are there any structures likely to be 50 years old or older within or adjacent to the project  
21 area: No

22 Source: “Valencia Road Improvements, Alvernon Way to Wilmot Road: Cultural Resources  
23 Inventory, Tucson, Pima County, Arizona” March, 2011

24 **Visual Impact**

- 25 • Is the project likely to affect noticeably the views from adjacent properties: Possibly

- 26 1. Should noise walls be constructed, some views from adjacent properties will be  
27 affected. To date, they do not appear to be necessary.

- 1                    2. The existing bridge at the UPRR would be widened, but no change to the existing  
2                    bridge profile is anticipated including any additional horizontal supports.
- 3                    3. Widening Valencia Road under Interstate 10 would not result in modification to  
4                    the existing bridge. Horizontal bridge supports would remain in place. Existing  
5                    wing walls would be modified to accommodate roadway widening, but is not  
6                    anticipated to result in visual impacts.

- 7                    • Is the project likely to cause a noticeable change in the foreground, middle-ground, or  
8                    background views from the road: No

9                                       Foreground views could experience minimal or no change with the addition of two  
10                    travel lanes.

- 11                    • Is the project along a designated Scenic Route: Yes

12                                       Valencia Road is a designated scenic, major route.

13                                       Source: <http://gis.pima.gov/maps/majscenic/mssr.pdf> March, 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011

#### 14 **Neighborhood/Social Impact**

- 15                    • Is there likely to be any commercial or residential displacement due to the construction of  
16                    this project: No

17                                       Project is anticipated to occur within existing right-of-way.

- 18                    • Are there likely to be any temporary changes in:

19                                       *Business access:* Yes

20                                       Access to businesses will be maintained throughout the project corridor during  
21                    construction. Businesses may experience short-term and temporary delays to  
22                    access during construction.

23                                       *Parking:* No

24                                       *Other:* Residential, Schools

25                                       1. Access to residences and schools will be maintained throughout the project  
26                    corridor during construction; however, short-term and temporary delays to access  
27                    may be experienced during construction.

28                                       2. Sun Tran bus route 26 would continue to operate, but short-term and temporary  
29                    delays could occur.

- 30                    • Are there likely to be any permanent changes in:

31                                       *Traffic Service:* Yes

32                                       The proposed project will improve traffic service and circulation patterns.

33                                       *Traffic circumstances:* Yes

34                                       The proposed project would improve traffic service.

1           *Parking: No*

2           *Other: Yes*

3                   The proposed project would improve multi-modal transportation opportunities  
4                   and access.

5                   No long term traffic detours are anticipated.

6       • Is the project likely to affect continuity in neighborhoods in the vicinity: Yes

7                   The proposed project would improve neighborhood continuity by providing improved  
8                   traffic efficiency, pedestrian circulation, ADA compliance, bicycle lanes and  
9                   additional commuter bus options.

10       • Note: Institutional land use in the project area and vicinity could be impacted by temporary  
11           road closures and traffic delays during construction.

12   Source: Project team discussions

13

14                                   **LOCAL JURISDICTION/AGENCY COORDINATION**

15       • Are there local jurisdictions and governmental agencies with whom coordination is  
16           anticipated or has begun: Yes

17       *City of South Tucson: No*

18       *City of Tucson: Yes*

19       *Pascua Yaqui Tribe: Yes*

20                   Cultural resources coordination

21       *Tohono O'odham Nation: Yes*

22                   Cultural resources coordination

23       *Town of Marana: No*

24       *Town of Sahuarita: No*

25       *Arizona Department of Environmental Quality: Yes*

26                   1. Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Permitting

27                   2. Clean Water Act Section 402 Stormwater Permitting

28       *Arizona Department of Transportation: Yes*

29                   Right-of-Way Use Permit for construction at Interstate 10

30       *Arizona Game and Fish Department: Yes*

31                   Wildlife movement, coordination, and project evaluation.

- 1        *Arizona State Land Department: Yes*
- 2                Right-of-way use permit and possible vegetation impacts
- 3        *U.S. Army Corp of Engineers: Yes*
- 4                1. Jurisdictional delineations approval
- 5                2. Clean Water Act Section 404 permitting
- 6        *U. S. Bureau of Land Management: No*
- 7        *U. S. Environmental Protection Agency: No*
- 8        *U.S. Federal Highway Administration: No*
- 9        *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Yes*
- 10               Endangered Species Act Technical Assistance
- 11               *Other*
- 12        *Regional Transportation Authority: Yes*
- 13        *Pima County Department of Environmental Quality: Yes*
- 14        *Pima County Regional Flood Control District: Yes*
- 15               Riparian Mitigation Plan (if needed).
- 16        *Arizona Department of Agriculture: Yes*
- 17               Arizona Native Plant Law - Notice of Intent to Clear Land
- 18        *Arizona Department of Water Resources: No*
- 19        *State Historic Preservation Office: Yes*
- 20               Consultation on impacts to cultural/archeological resources
- 21        *Federal Emergency Management Agency: Yes*
- 22        *U.S. Department of Defense: Yes*
- 23        • Note any issues for coordination that have been identified to date:
- 24               No issues to date
- 25        • Briefly describe coordination efforts planned or under way:
- 26               1. Regional Transportation Authority is funding the project through an intergovernmental
- 27               agreement.

- 1        2. Pima County will coordinate with the Pima County Regional Flood Control District to  
2        develop a Riparian Mitigation Plan.
- 3        3. Pima County will submit the Biological Evaluation to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4        and request a Technical Assistance Letter.
- 5        4. The contractor will need to apply for an air quality/dust control permit through the Pima  
6        County Department of Environmental Quality for the bridge demolition work.
- 7        5. The contractor may need to apply for a Pima County Asbestos Removal/Demolition  
8        Activity Permit.
- 9        6. The contractor may need to prepare a National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air  
10       Pollutants (NESHAP) notification through the Pima County Department of  
11       Environmental Quality to complete the bridge demolition.
- 12       7. Notice of Intent to Clear Land will be submitted to the Arizona Department of  
13       Agriculture.
- 14       8. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office and the tribes has been initiated.
- 15       9. PCDOT and the contractor will need to apply for a Clean Water Act Section 402  
16       authorization from Arizona Department of Environmental Quality if soil disturbances are  
17       greater than one acre.
- 18       10. A Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality permit will be submitted to the Arizona  
19       Department of Environmental Quality if an Individual Section 404 permit is required.
- 20       11. A preliminary jurisdictional delineation and Section 404 application will be submitted to  
21       the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

22 Source: Project team discussions

23

24

### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

- 25 • Has a Public Involvement Plan been developed for the project: Yes

26 Public Involvement Plan is being developed by Pima County.

- 27 • Has a Citizen Advisory Committee been formed, or is one being formed: Yes.

28 Citizen Advisory Committee has been formed.

### **CAC Meeting Schedule**

30 CAC Meeting #1 February 22, 2011

31 CAC Meeting #2 April 19, 2011

32 CAC Meeting #3 May 17, 2011

33 CAC Meeting #4 June 8, 2011

- 34 • Have any public meetings been scheduled: Yes





## Environmental Impact Screening Summary Impact Matrix

**Project Name: Valencia Road: Alvernon Way to Wilmot Road**

**Project Number: #4VAKDP**

**Project Limits: Valencia Road from Alvernon Way to Wilmot Road**

Applicable to the Project	Potentially Affected Environmental Categories ☐	100-year floodplain	Access	Air Quality	Cultural Resources	Hazardous Materials	Noise	Protected Plants	Protected Riparian	Protected Wildlife	Recreation	Right-of-Way	Section 401/404	Visual Resources
	Project Construction and Operation Activities													
N/A	Change in the vertical or horizontal alignment													
N/A	New alignment													
✓☐	Added capacity (i.e., through lanes)	X	H	0	0	0	H	0	0	0	M	0	0	X
✓☐	Milling/grading	0	H	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
✓☐	Change in access (e.g., driveways, intersections)	0	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	M	0	0	X
✓☐	Clearing and grubbing	0	0	0	0	0	0	H	H	0	0	0	H	X
✓☐	Excavation	H	0	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
✓☐	Cut slope	H	X	0	0	X	0	0	H	0	0	0	0	X
✓☐	Demolition	X	H	H	0	H	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	X
✓☐	Demolition debris disposal	0	0	H	0	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N/A	Acquisition of additional right-of-way													
✓☐	Temporary construction easements	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	M	0	0
✓☐	Discharge of dredge or fill material	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	M	H	0
N/A	Channeling and dredging													
✓☐	Hauling	0	H	H	0	0	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
✓☐	New signals	0	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	0
✓☐	Storm-water drainage	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	H	0
✓☐	Construction equipment	0	H	H	0	H	H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N/A	Detour route													

Matrix Key:  
 0 = no involvement (e.g. if there is no protected wildlife in the area then there would be no involvement with wildlife during project activities)  
 X = potential involvement, but no or minimal impact (e.g. there may be listed wildlife in the vicinity of the project, but no evidence of wildlife in the project area itself, therefore there would be no or minimal impact)  
 M = potential moderate impact (e.g. one protected plant is found that would be affected)  
 H = potential high impact (e.g. a cluster of protected plants are found; the area serves as habitat for a protect species)