

August 13, 2021

Interstate 11 Tier 1 EIS Study Team
c/o ADOT Communications
1655 W. Jackson Street, Mail Drop 126F
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

This letter is being submitted to provide ADOT with the Town's position on the Interstate 11 Final Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as part of the EIS public review and comment period. The Sahuarita Town Council held a special meeting on August 10, 2021 to hear from the public and provide feedback on the EIS. The meeting was well attended—standing room only—by residents, many who have lived in the Town for decades.

The Town submitted a letter to ADOT on July 3, 2019 to provide a public record and feedback as part of the Draft Tier 1 EIS public review and comment process. The letter expressed concerns about community impacts, neighborhood continuity, and the rural, desert feel of the community, especially as it pertained to the west alternative under consideration.

In the Final Tier 1 EIS, the west preferred alternative connects to Interstate 19 in Sahuarita further north than what was reflected in the Draft Tier 1 EIS. Although this new western alignment is an improvement, it does not adequately alleviate the Town's concerns conveyed earlier. Public sentiment expressed during the aforementioned meeting was clear. Those attending were unified in their opposition to the proposed west alternative. Moreover, the Town Council Members unanimously voted (4-0) to express that the Town Council is "strongly opposed" to the proposed west alternative.

Respectfully submitted,

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