



Regional Transportation Authority

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755 transportation projects completed as RTA marks 10-year anniversary

Ten years after voter approval of the Regional Transportation Authority's 20-year plan and half-cent excise tax, the RTA has delivered 755 transportation improvements across the region.

The \$2.1 billion RTA plan and half-cent excise tax were approved by Pima County voters on May 16, 2006, following an extensive 10-month public involvement process that involved a 35-member citizens committee with diverse representation from across the region.

"The RTA Board pledged to deliver and we have honored the voters' wishes," said Ramón Valadez, a member of the RTA Board and Pima County Supervisor. Valadez was among the 2005 RTA Board members who voted to place the plan on the ballot.

The multimodal plan includes roadway, transit, safety, environmental and economic vitality enhancements.

"The RTA plan offers choices for everyone and we have worked diligently to construct roads, expand transit services and provide new sidewalks and bike lanes, among other amenities," said RTA Board Chair Ed Honea and Mayor of Marana. "In some cases, we have worked across jurisdictional boundaries to deliver projects on or under budget and on schedule. The premise of the RTA has been collaboration and we continue to strengthen those partnerships to meet the needs of our communities and region."

One of the signature projects of the RTA plan was the Sun Link streetcar project. The project has generated over \$1 billion in public and private sector investments in downtown Tucson to strengthen the region's urban core.

New bike lanes, sidewalks and neighborhood Sun Shuttle service that connects to Sun Tran

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provide expanded mobility and accessibility options. From traffic signal improvements to new wildlife linkages and business assistance, the RTA touches everyone in the region. "The RTA MainStreet business assistance program was an instrumental component of the RTA plan that has helped thousands of businesses through construction projects," Honea said. "We believe support for the RTA plan grew stronger because it addressed various needs, such as this and others, across the region. We have maintained transparency and accountability along the way."

The Regional Transportation Authority, which is managed by Pima Association of Governments, serves as the fiscal manager of the plan. Projects and services are primarily implemented by RTA member jurisdictions under contract with the RTA. A citizens committee and a technical management committee guide plan oversight implementation.

"The Citizens Accountability for Regional Transportation (CART) Committee and our Technical Management Committee are also helping to ensure we deliver the plan as promised to the voters," Honea said. "Thanks to our Pima County voters, the RTA has invested more than \$1 billion in the region during its first decade to provide a better future for everyone."

The RTA recently formed a reauthorization task force to explore options for timing for development of a future plan.

The Regional Transportation Authority is the fiscal manager of the \$2.1 billion regional transportation plan approved by Pima County voters on May 16, 2006. The RTA Board is comprised of elected representatives from the cities of Tucson and South Tucson, Pima County, the towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Tohono O'odham Nation. The Pima County representative of the Arizona State Transportation Board also serves on the board. The RTA is managed through Pima Association of Governments, the region's metropolitan planning organization. For more information about the RTA plan, visit www.RTAmobility.com, see RTA Pima County on Facebook, or call (520) 792-1093.