TIP – A short-term capital-improvement program

Transportation Improvement Program

Pima Association of Governments’ Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a federally mandated, five-year capital-improvement program of regional transportation projects and programs. It identifies priorities for all transportation modes including national, state and local roadways; transit, aviation, bike and pedestrian facilities, and programs such as ride sharing.

The TIP is updated annually to show new proposed projects.

Pima Association of Governments (PAG) facilitates discussion and action on regional issues. PAG is governed by a Regional Council, which consists of one representative from each of the jurisdictions within and including Pima County, two tribal communities and a representative from the Arizona State Transportation Board. Additional stakeholders are involved in the PAG planning process. PAG is a federally designated metropolitan planning organization and fulfills requirements to receive federal transportation funding.

PAG does not build projects. Projects are constructed by the jurisdictions.
What are the TIP Goals?

• To make optimal use of available resources to meet transportation needs.
• To identify priorities and deliver regional projects as promised.
• To maintain consistency with the federally mandated, long-range Regional Transportation Plan.
• To assess potential impacts, including air quality.
• To provide an opportunity for public input.

How is the TIP Prepared?

• Local and state governments and local transportation providers propose projects with public input.
• Funding or project schedule adjustments are made as necessary.
• New projects may be introduced if funding is available and projects are consistent with the long-range plan.
• Candidate projects are evaluated using established criteria.
  • Safety Benefits
  • Congestion Benefits
  • Accessibility Improvements
  • Volume of Use
  • Environmental Benefits
  • System Preservation
  • Regional Significance
  • Improved System Continuity
• A draft TIP is analyzed for air quality and other impacts. Adjustments are made to the TIP as needed
• After stakeholder and public review, recommendations go to PAG’s Regional Council for a final decision.
Representatives from each member jurisdiction and other regional transportation stakeholders serve on a subcommittee established to review and develop the TIP.

Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)
City of South Tucson
City of Tucson
Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona
Pima Association of Governments
Pima County
Pima County Department of Environmental Quality
Sun Tran
Tohono O’odham Nation
Town of Marana
Town of Oro Valley
Town of Sahuarita
Tucson Airport Authority
University of Arizona
Why are certain projects not included in the TIP?

- Each jurisdiction uses its own capital improvement plan process to decide which projects to propose.

- Federal regulations state that projects identified for funding through the TIP must be consistent with the RTP.

- Some projects are local in nature and are funded with local sources that are not required to be listed in the TIP.

- Some projects may not be ready for implementation until they have been studied and carefully planned.

- While PAG prepares the TIP, it has no authority over the jurisdictions concerning which projects they will submit for funding consideration. The TIP is adopted by the PAG Regional Council as a whole. Projects cannot be added that a jurisdiction has not requested.

How can I get involved?

- Attend any TIP meeting or put your name on a mailing list for agendas and other information.

- Attend the TIP Open House to provide public input.

- Discuss proposed programs with members of the TIP Subcommittee or local transportation departments.

- A 30-day public comment period precedes adoption of the TIP by PAG’s Regional council. Submit comments through the PAG Web site at www.PAGnet.org.

For more information contact PAG or your local jurisdiction.

What is the connection between the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) plan?

The TIP is a federally mandated five-year capital-improvement program that shows the region’s funding commitments to transportation projects. The RTP is the federally mandated long-range plan. The TIP must be consistent with the RTP. The $2.1 billion, 20-year RTA plan was approved by Pima County voters on May 16, 2006, and is tied to a 1/2-cent excise tax. The TIP will include RTA-funded projects. The RTA funding for those projects however is ‘fixed’ and not subject to adjustment through the TIP process.

Frequently Asked Questions