



# Transportation in our Region

Presented by Jim DeGrood, PAG Transportation Services Director  
Transportation 101 Forum: Aug. 28, 2013

## Setting the stage

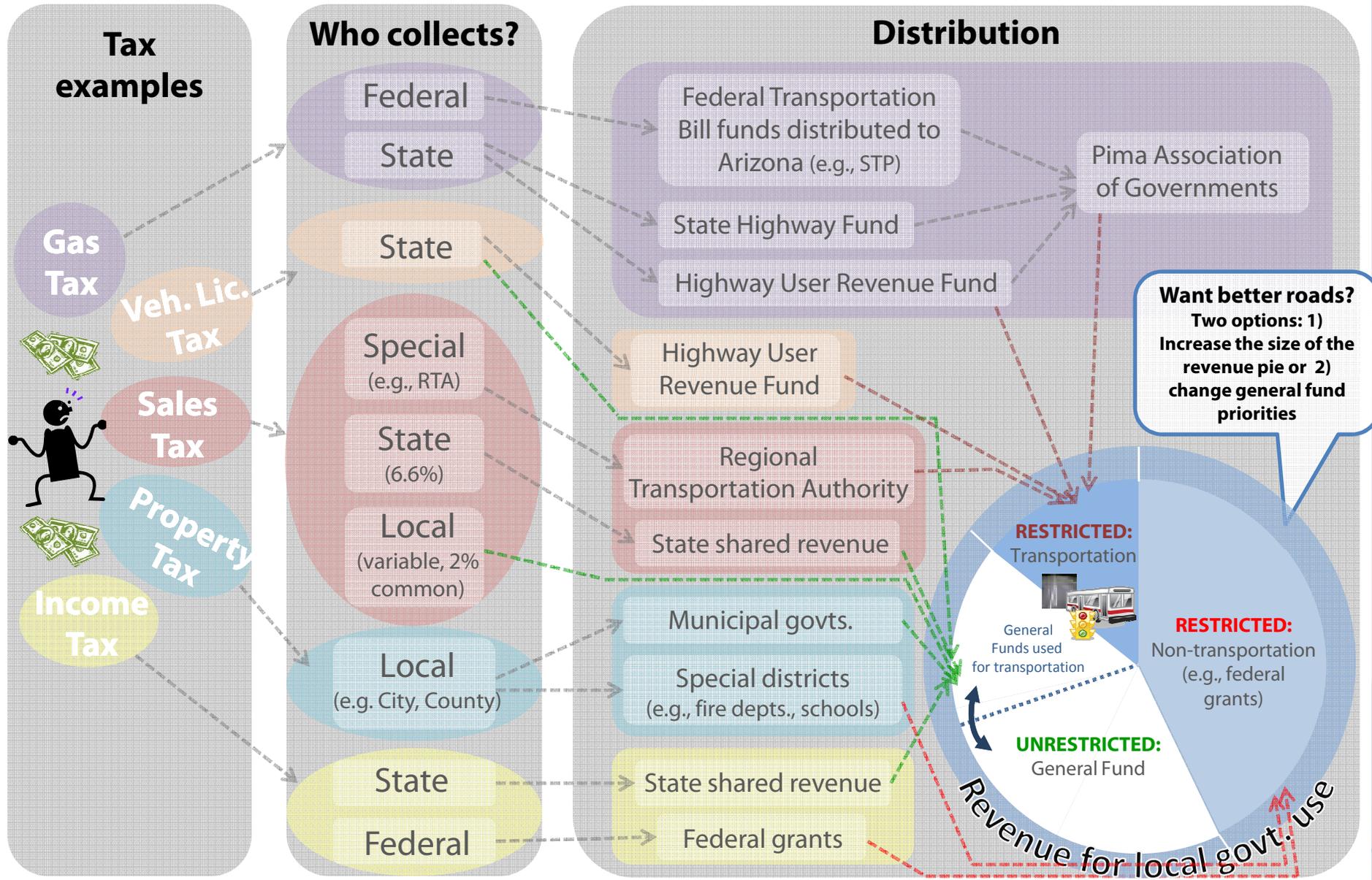
Wonder how your tax dollars are spent on transportation projects?

Wonder why project scheduling sometimes doesn't seem to make sense?

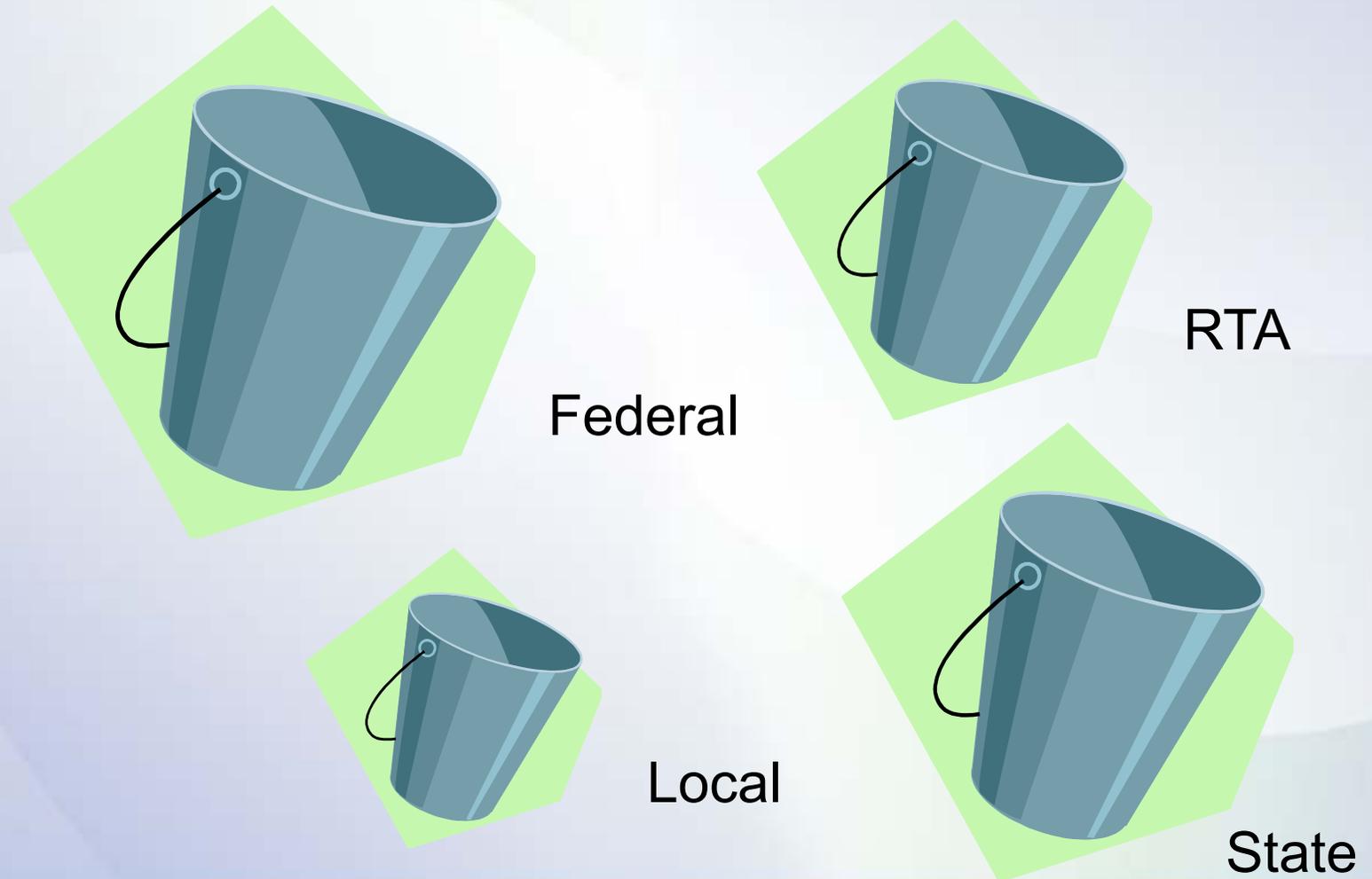
Wonder how needed transportation improvements will be funded in the future?

Wonder how you can get involved to make a difference?

# Taxes and Transportation



# Project Funding, Scheduling, Timing



# Future Funding: What's in the cards?



- 1) 2040 RTP – projects \$14 billion short in meeting regional needs
- 2) Tighter budgets – due to improved gas mileage, use of alternative fuels
- 3) Sustained growth

# What can you do?

- 1) Be a citizen participant
  - a. Citizen committees
  - b. Meetings open to the public
  - c. Voting
  - d. Letters/phone calls to your elected officials
  
- 2) Support a business friendly environment
  - a. Generates impact fees
  - b. Creates new property taxes
  - c. Provides jobs/income taxes

# Transportation Planning

- 1) Transportation Planning (Intermodal)
  - a. Pima Association of Governments - regional
  - b. Regional Transportation Authority - regional
  - c. City of Tucson - local
- 2) Transportation Funding Sources
- 3) Public Involvement

# What is PAG?

Pima Association of Governments is a nonprofit metropolitan planning organization with three divisions:

- Transportation Planning
- Sustainable Environment
- Technical Services



# What is the RTA?

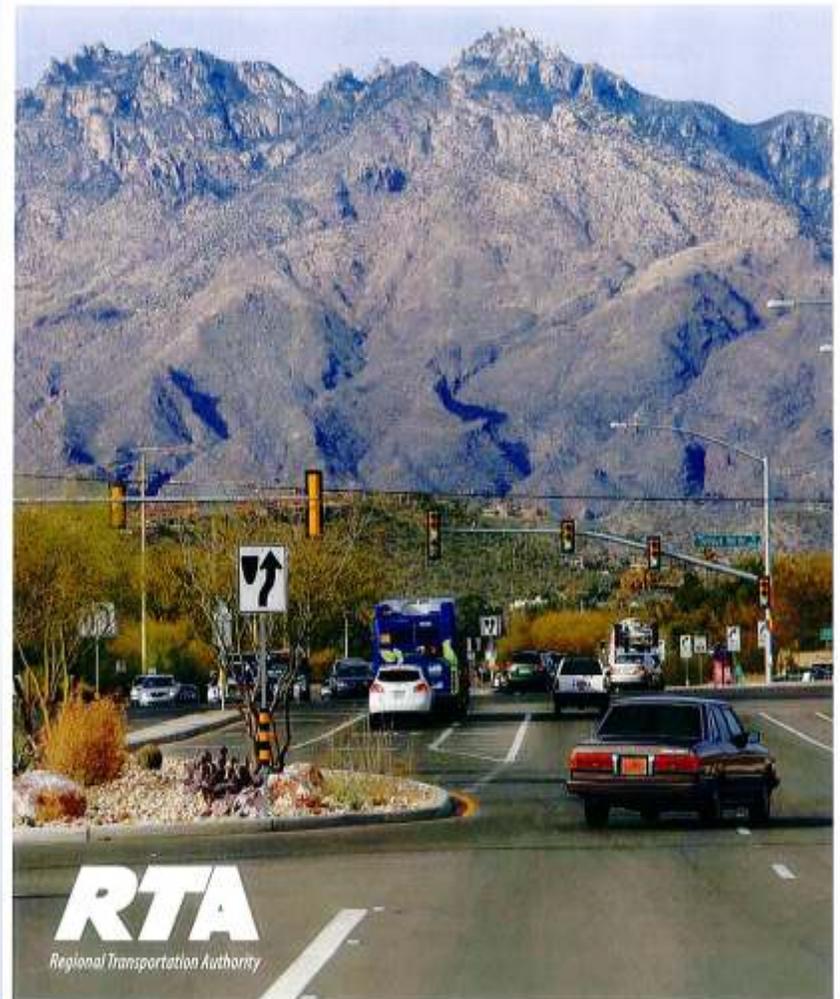
The Regional Transportation Authority is a political subdivision and is managed by PAG through a memorandum of understanding.

The RTA is the fiscal manager of the \$2.1 billion, 20-year RTA plan, which was approved by voters in May 2006 along with a half-cent excise tax to fund the plan.

## 2013 Regional Transportation Authority Plan Report

RTA Ballot No. 36

**INTERSECTION SAFETY AND CAPACITY UPGRADES**





## Who governs PAG/RTA?

PAG is governed by a nine-member Regional Council/RTA Board with the chief elected official serving from each member jurisdiction, including the Cities of South Tucson and Tucson, Pima County, the Towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, the Tohono O'odham Nation and a board member serving from the Arizona State Transportation Board.

**Tucson Representative:** Mayor Jonathan Rothschild



## What is PAG's mission?

PAG's mission is to address regional issues through cooperative efforts and pooled resources, and to provide accurate, relevant data that leads to effective regional planning decisions.

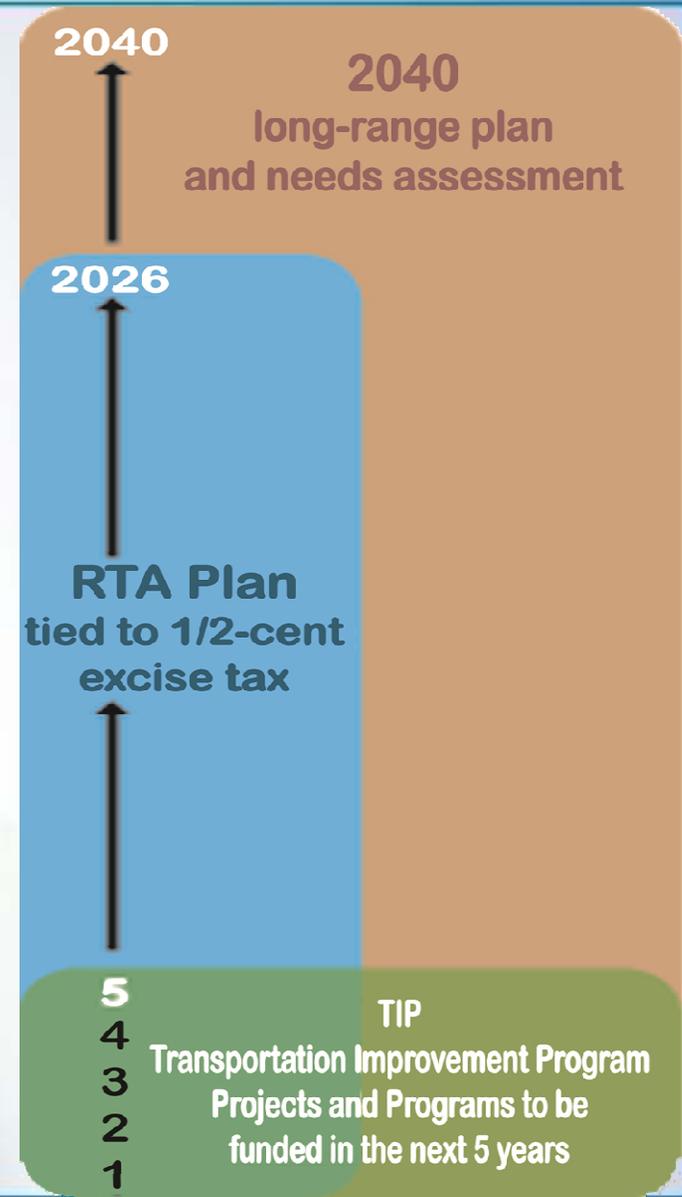
# Transportation Planning Considerations

- Roadways
- Transit – bus, streetcar
- Paratransit – (Disabled community)
- Vanpool
- Carpool
- Bicyclists
- Pedestrians
- Residents
- Businesses
- Wildlife

# How the plans work together

The **RTP** is the “parent” plan for the region.

The **RTP** includes short- and long-range projects.



# PAG's RTP

- Long - range “visionary” plan
- Current plan: 2040 RTP
- RTP identifies current/future challenges
- Identifies anticipated funding to meet transportation needs
- Jurisdictions provide candidate projects to meet regional needs
- RTP updated every 4 years



Mobility matters throughout our lives.



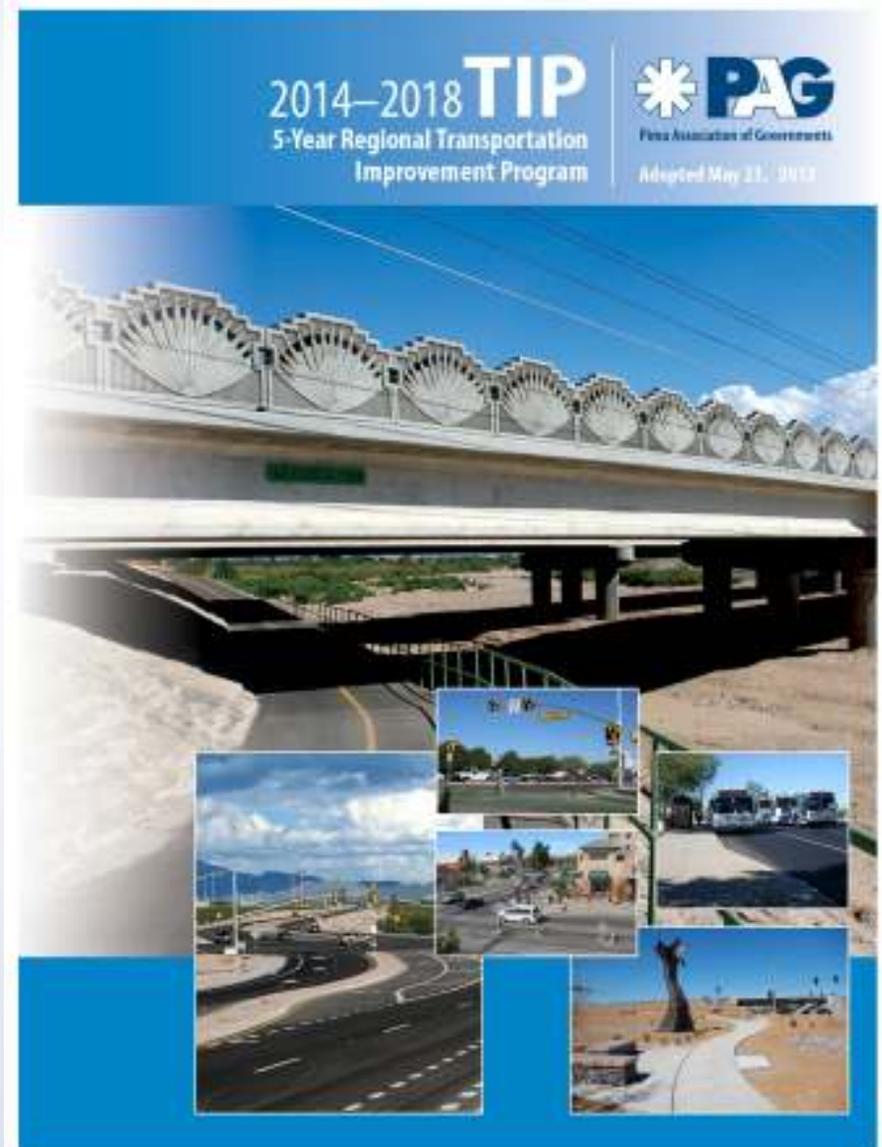
# PAG's RTP Update

- **Technical Task Force**  
(jurisdictions/stakeholder entities)
- **Citizen Input** along the way (survey, ThinkTank, meetings)
- **PAG Committee Process\*** (TIP Subcommittee, TPC, Management, Regional Council)
- Project Prioritization
- Costs (fiscal constraint)
- Environmental Concerns
- Model for Congestion (Title VI and Air Quality)
- **Public Review and Comment**
- PAG Regional Council Adoption

\*Consensus-oriented decisions encouraged

# PAG's TIP

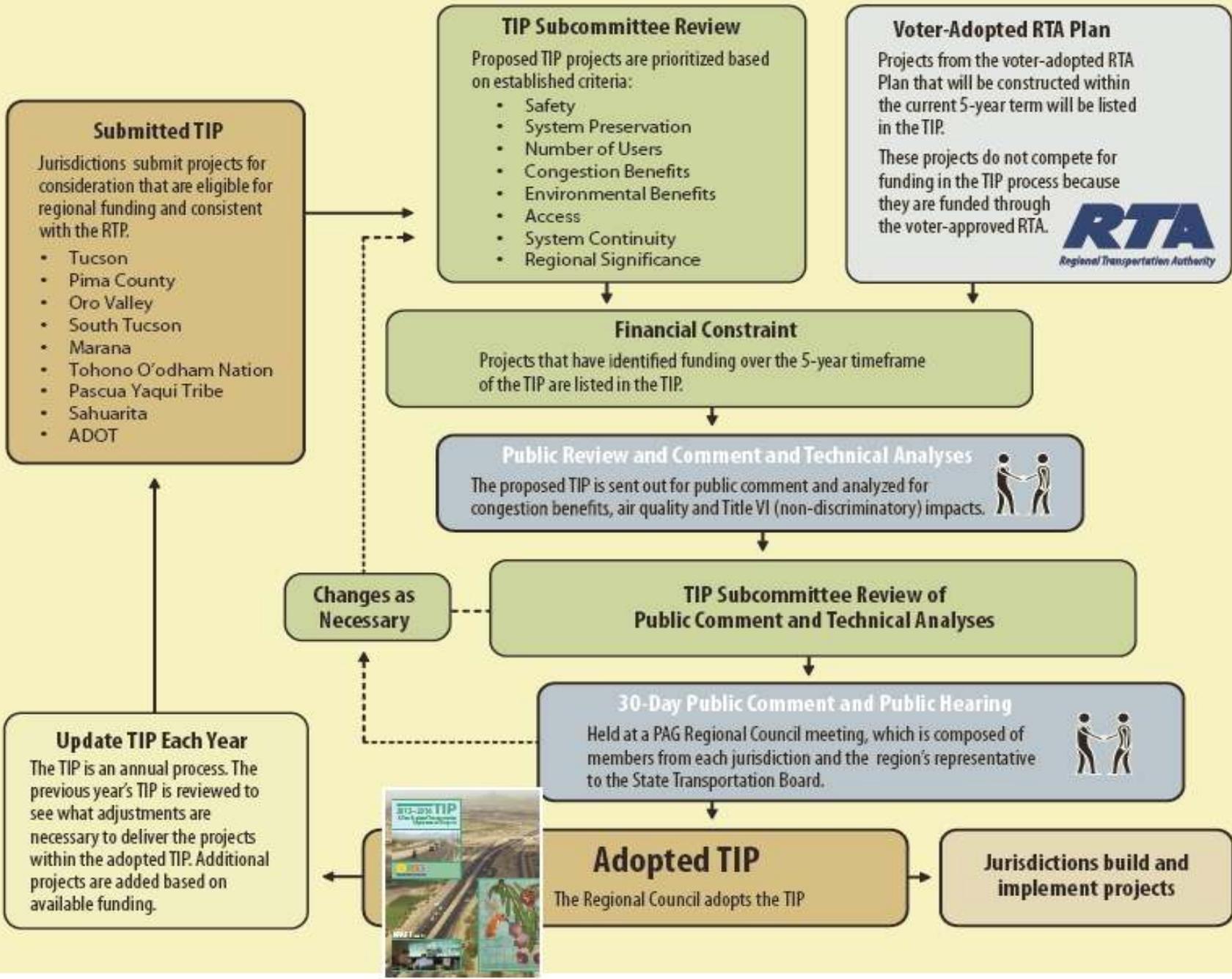
- Short-range capital outlay (cash flow)
- Current TIP: FY 2014-18
- Draws upon projects defined in RTP
- Updated annually (PAG committee process)



# PAG's TIP Update

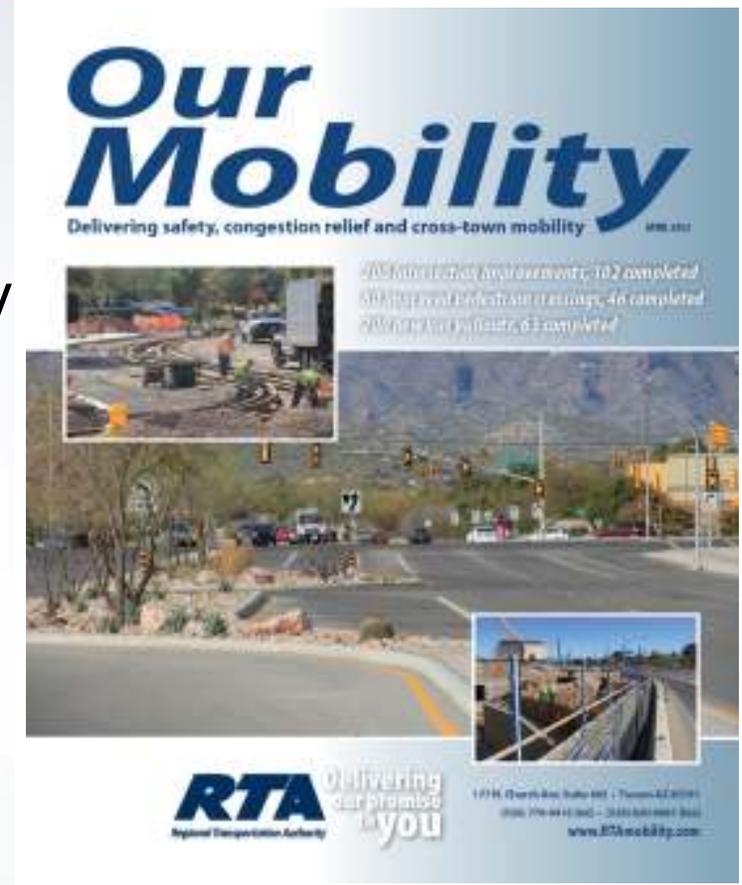
- Call for Projects from jurisdictions
- Draft list
- **PAG Committee Process\*** – meetings open to the public
- Title VI and Air Quality Modeling
- **Public Comment**
  - **TIP Open Houses**
  - **30-day public comment period**
- PAG Regional Council Adoption

\*Consensus-oriented decisions encouraged



## RTA Plan

- Long-range regional plan
- Approved by Pima County voters on May 16, 2006, by a 3-2 margin
- Funded by a half-cent transaction privilege tax, also approved by voters
- Current plan: FY 2006-2026
- RTA is fiscal manager of the \$2.1 billion, 20-year plan
- Jurisdictions implement majority of the projects



RTA helped fill gap  
in the 2030 RTP

# RTA Plan Development

- Citizen input (35-member committee)
- Technical Management input (22 members)
- **Extensive Public Outreach and Input (2005)**
  - Jurisdictions submitted projects
  - Over 50 public meetings to develop plan
  - Initial 200 public presentations
  - 27 town halls; 3 major news conferences
  - Unanimous approval by all RTA member jurisdictions
  - Another 200 public presentations
  - 14 major changes based on public feedback
- RTA Board signed Accountability Pledge
- **Election – May 16, 2006 (OK'd by 3-2 margin)**

# PAG's Short-Range Transit Plan

- Inaugural plan currently in development
- Coordinates transit planning regionally
- Describes five-year capital and operating expenditures
- Will inform the TIP on annual basis



# Regional Transit Planning

- Regional Transit Planning is a requirement of the Federal Transit Administration
- Federal and RTA transit funding estimates are developed annually
- Projects eligible for both funding sources are prioritized and regionally approved



# Regional Transit Planning

- Services include:
  - Sun Tran / Sun Van / Sun Express (COT)
  - Sun Link (COT)
  - Sun Shuttle (RTA)
  - Sun Shuttle Dial-a-Ride (RTA)
  - RTA Special Needs Transit
- Funding Challenges:
  - No locally dedicated funding source
  - AZ 1 of only 4 states with no state funding (HURF cannot be used for transit)
  - Federal money primarily used for capital purchases

# City of Tucson Transportation Planning Overview

City of Tucson  
Department of Transportation

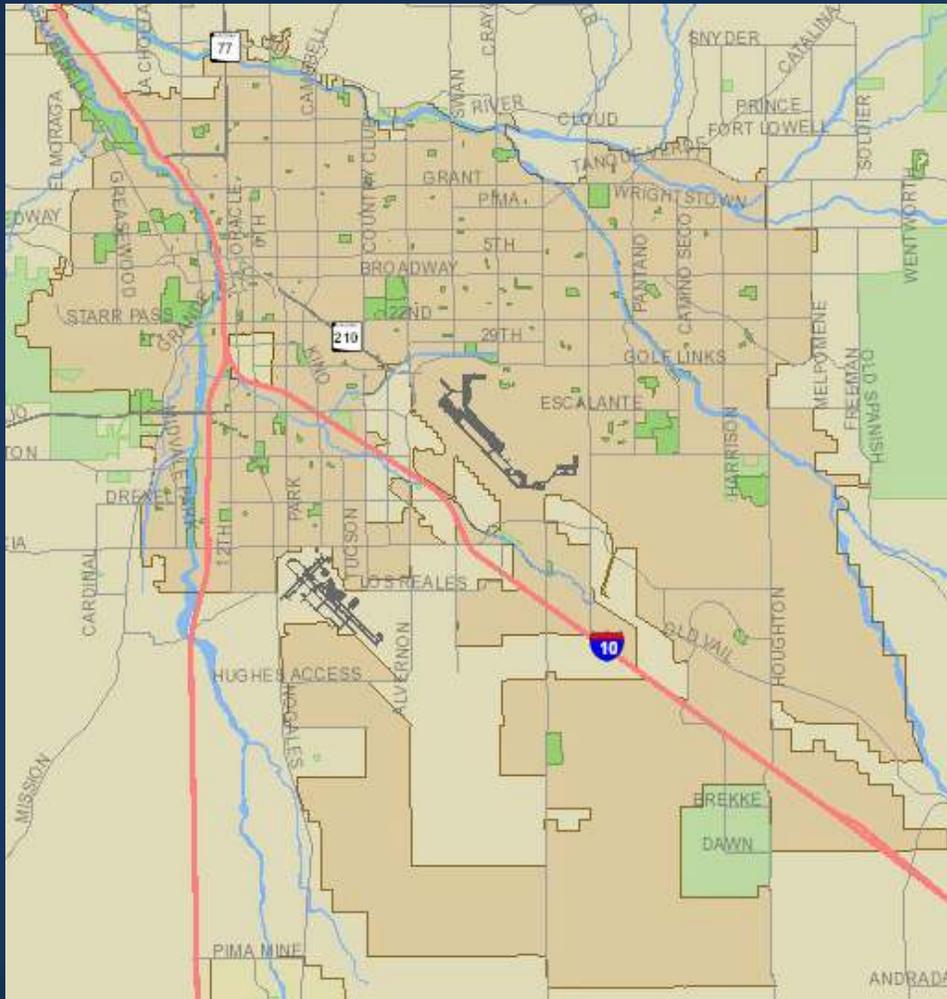
Presented by:  
Carlos de Leon, Deputy Director, and Andrew McGovern, Administrator  
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# City of Tucson



227 square miles

Population (2010)

City 520,116

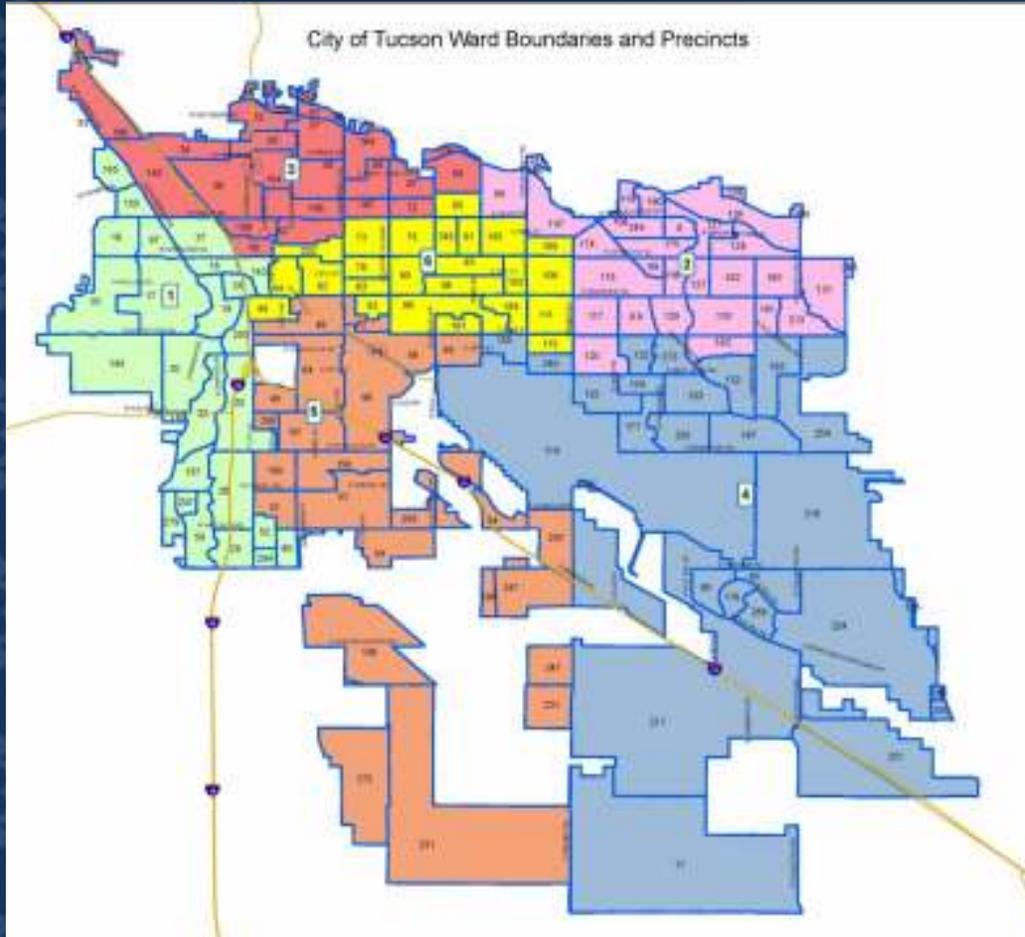
Metro 1,020,200



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# City of Tucson Governance



Mayor  
Jonathan Rothschild



City Manager  
Richard Miranda



Ward One  
Regina Romero



Ward Two  
Paul Cunningham



Ward Three  
Karin Uhlich



Ward Four  
Shirley Scott



Ward Five  
Richard Fimbres



Ward Six  
Steve Kozachik



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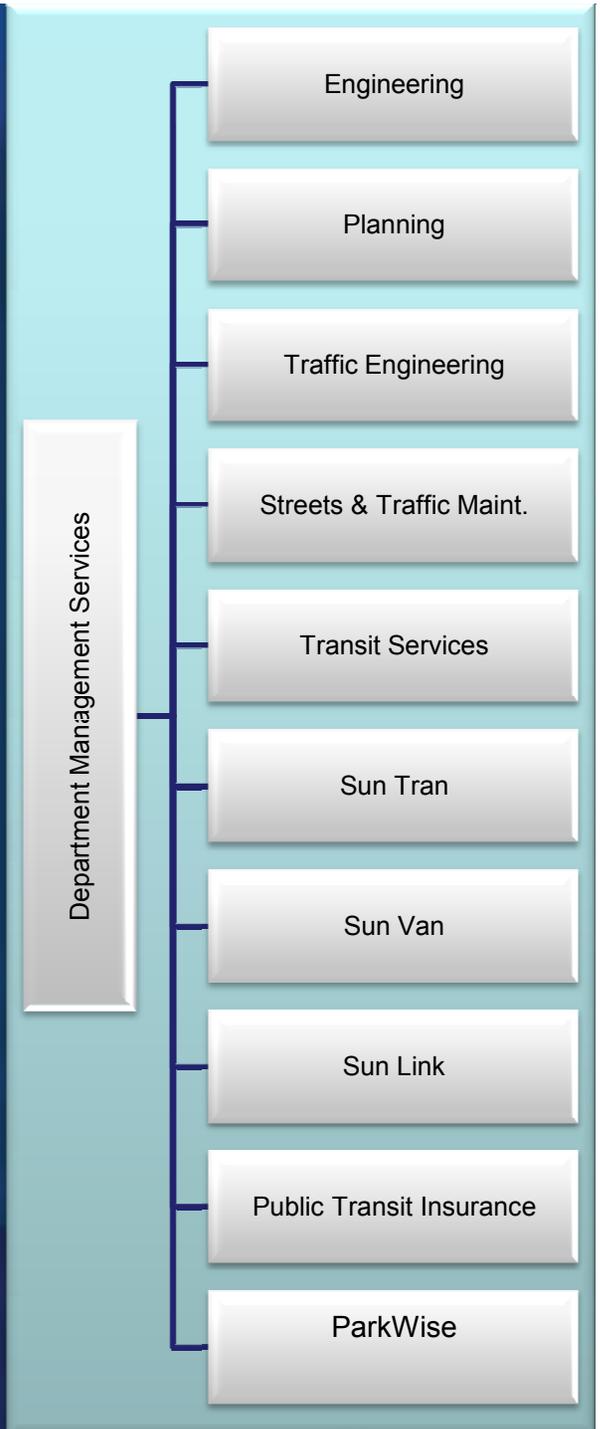
# Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT)

## Mission

To create, maintain, and operate a safe and reliable system for the movement of people throughout our community with the highest quality transportation services, programs, and facilities.



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# TDOT Maintenance

Number of Street Miles Maintained	2,100
Miles of Bikeways	575
Miles of Drainageway	1,449
Number of Street Lights	19,701
Annual Miles of Fixed-Route Bus Service	9,639,000
Annual Miles of ParaTransit Service	4,489,070
Number of Traffic Signals	586



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# TDOT Funding Sources

Discretionary

Restricted

General  
Funds

Local HURF  
Roads  
Development  
Impact Fees

Grants  
(State,  
PAG,  
other)

Bonds  
(City,  
County)  
RTA

Federal  
Grants



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# Regulations, Guidelines, Policies and Practices

- Federal
  - Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Justice, Army Corps of Engineers
- State
  - Arizona Department of Transportation, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- Local
  - Pima County Department of Transportation, Pima County Regional Flood Control District, Pima Association of Governments, Regional Transportation Authority, Other City Departments
- Utilities
  - Tucson Water, Pima County Regional Water Reclamation Department, Tucson Electric Power, Southwest Gas, Century Link, Cox Communications and Other Communications Carriers



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# Citizen Input & Transportation Citizen Committees

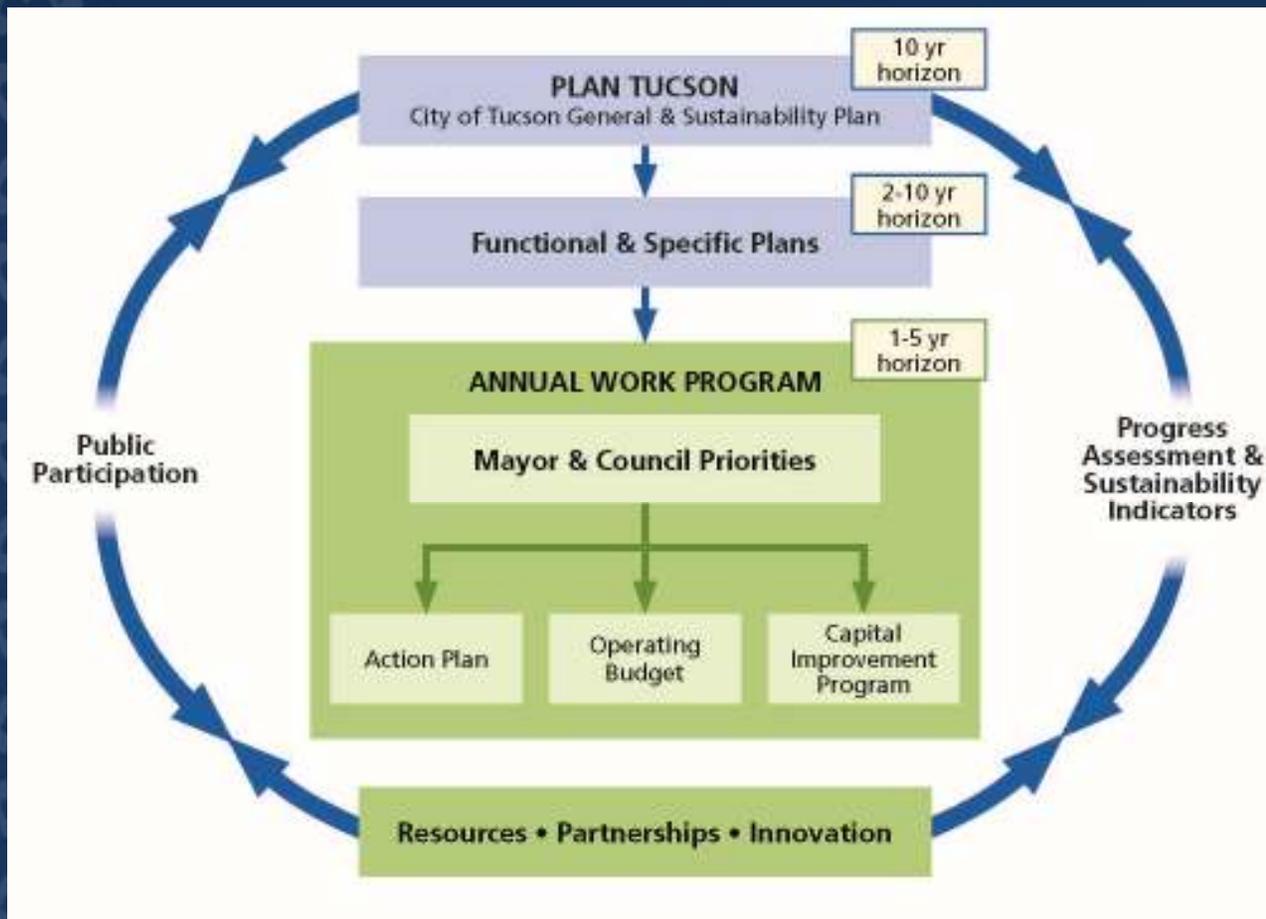
- Ongoing Transportation Citizen Committees
  - Bicycle Advisory Committee, Tucson-Pima County
  - Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee
  - ParkWise Commission
  - Pedestrian Advisory Committee
  - Transit Task Force
- Special Projects/Initiatives Citizen Committees
  - 2012 Bond Oversight; Project-specific CACs
- Department Staff
- Mayor and Council



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# City of Tucson Planning & Implementation



## TDOT Plans

### Specific Plans

Major Streets & Routes Plan

### Functional Plans

5-Year Strategic Transit Plan

### Work Program

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) & Operating Budget



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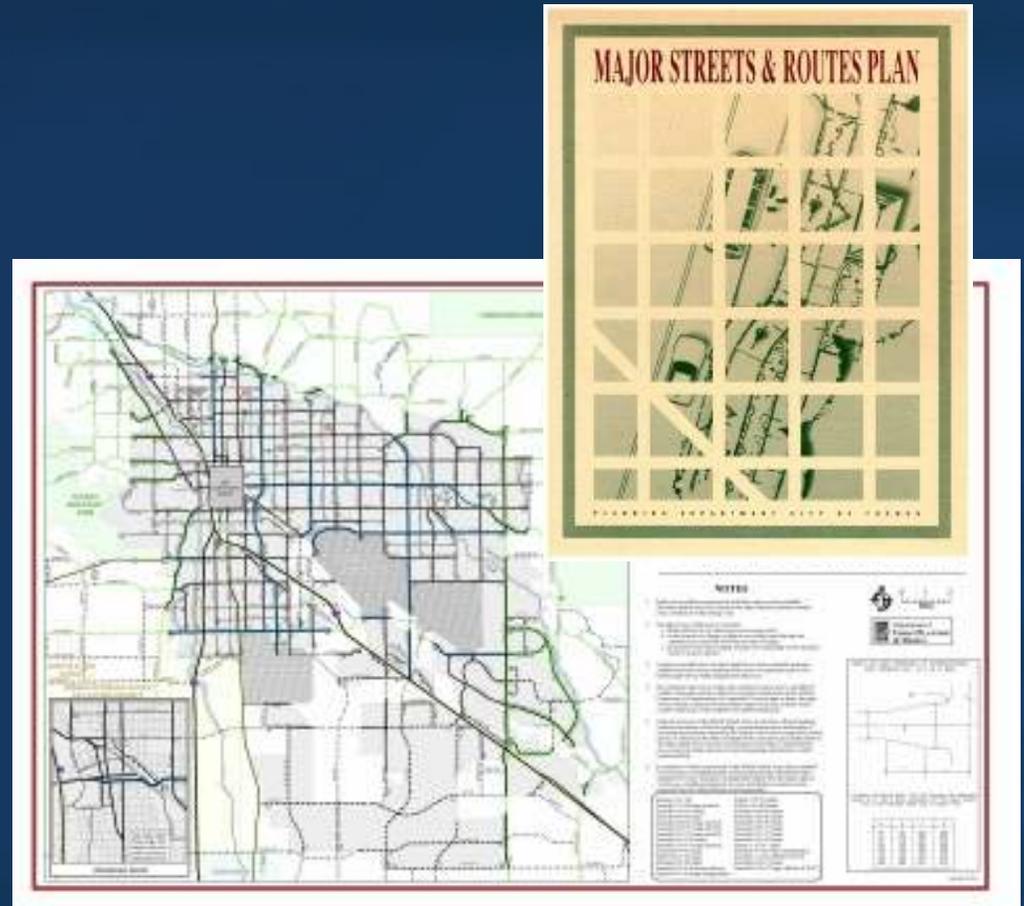




# City of Tucson

## Major Streets & Routes Plan (MS&R)

- Part of the City's Unified Development Code (Land Use Code)
- Policies, design guidelines, roadway classifications
- Adopted in 1983
- Amendments approved by Mayor and Council



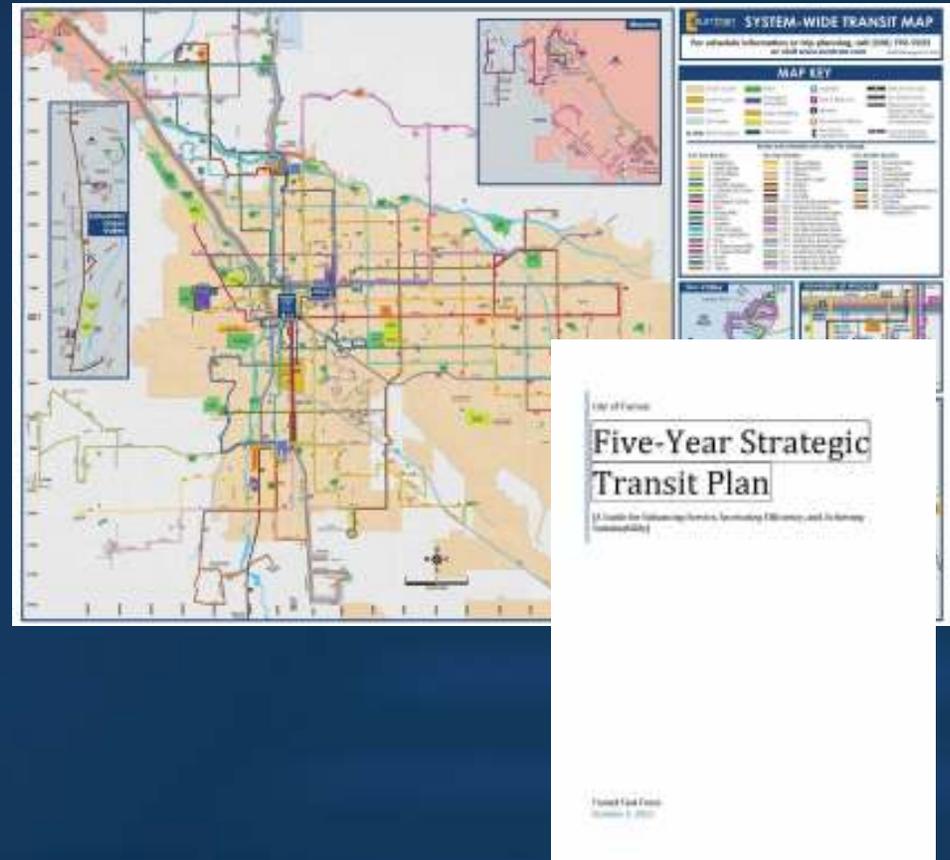
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# City of Tucson

## Draft Transit 5-Year Strategic Plan

- Sets strategic policies and goals to improve and track progress of the City's/region's transit system
- 5-year horizon: 2013-2018
- Presented to Mayor and Council in 2012; direction given to implement the plan



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# City of Tucson

## Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

- Part of overall adopted City Operating Budget
- Current is 2014-2018
- \$809M
  - (\$444.5M for 67 TDOT projects)
- Breaks out funding for infrastructure and facility projects
- Approved annually as part of budget by Mayor and Council



City of Tucson, Arizona  
Approved Five-Year  
Capital Improvement Program  
Fiscal Years 2014 - 2018



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# Transportation's FY 2014-2018 CIP

Street Lighting \$ 0.2 M

*Improvements for Alvernon Heights Pima County Neighborhood Reinvestment project.*

Traffic Signals \$ 4.6 M

*Constructs traffic signals, improvements to Intelligent Transportation System, pedestrian crossing improvements, signal upgrades, and the Regional Transportation Data Network.*

Public Transit \$106.6 M

*Replaces and upgrades Sun Tran and Sun Van vehicles, constructs facilities, Park-N-Ride facilities, and completes modern streetcar. Primary funding is RTA and federal funding.*

Streets \$333.2 M

*Upgrades arterial, collector, and residential streets, sidewalks, and bikeways; primary funding is RTA for roadway improvements and general obligation street bonds for pavement.*

**TOTAL \$444.6 M**

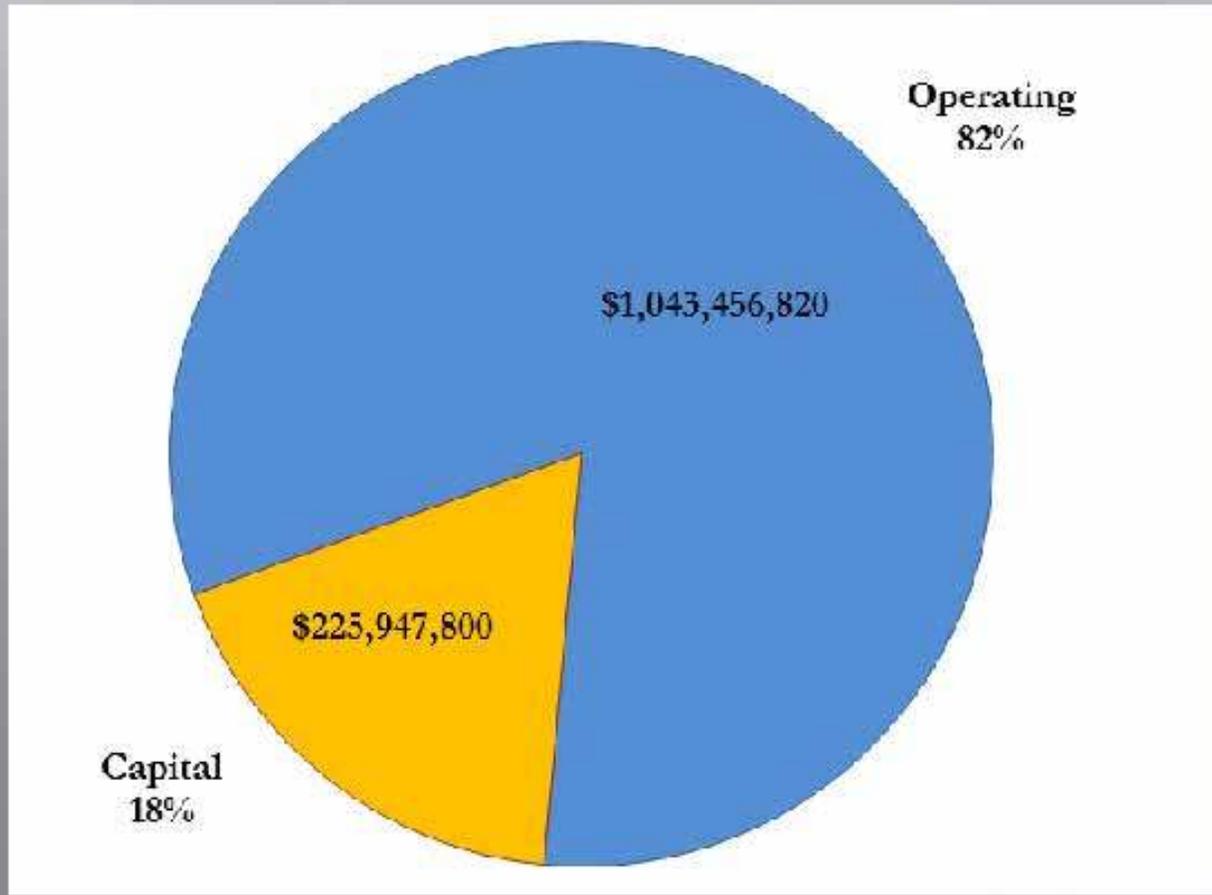


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# City of Tucson FY 2014 Budget

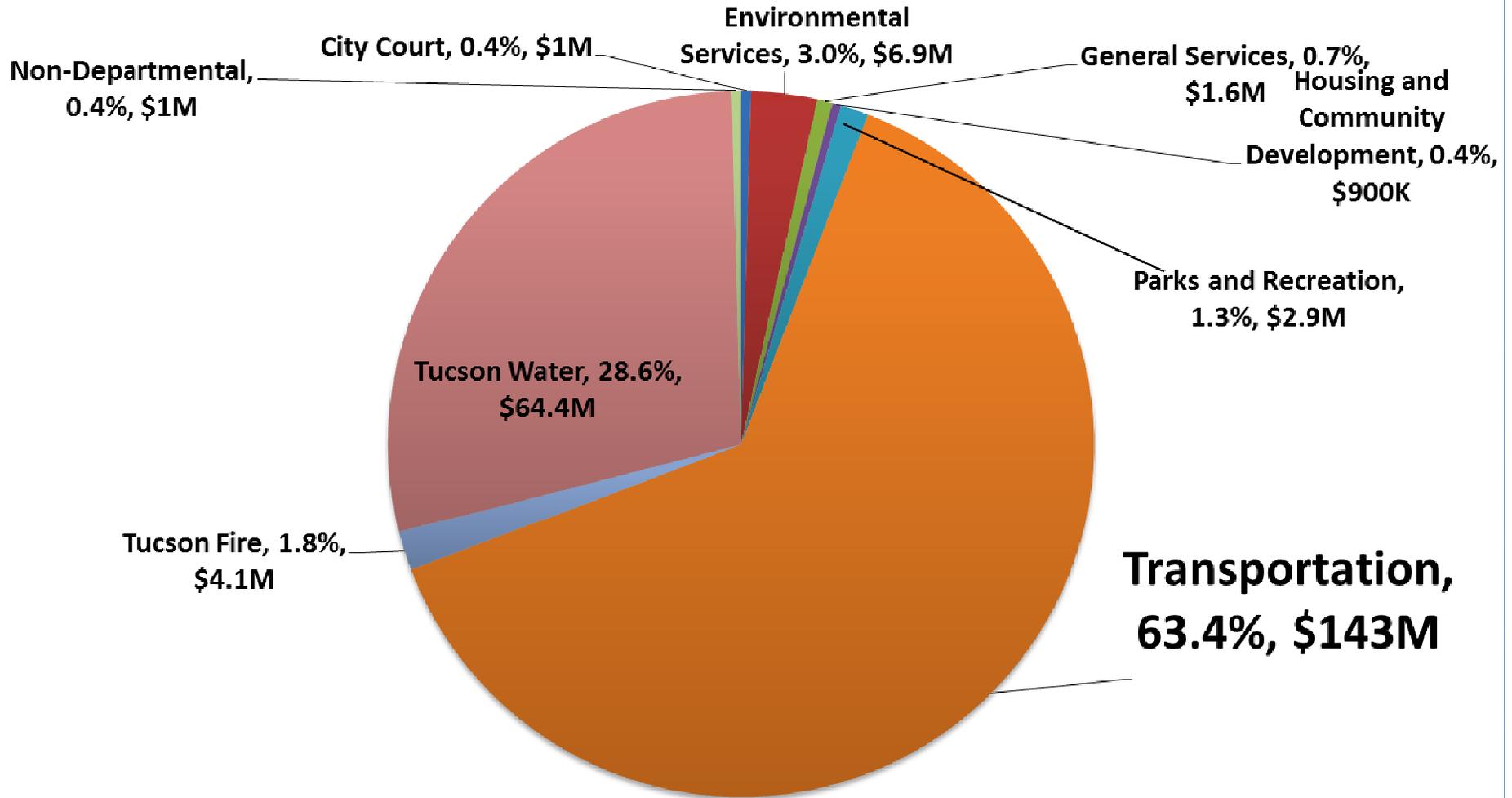
Budget: \$1.269 billion



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# FY 2014 CIP Funding Breakdown



**FY 2014 CIP Total = \$226M**

# Transportation Funding Sources

## 1. Gas Tax

- a. Federal – 18.4 cents
- b. State – 18.0 cents

## 2. State Fees

- a. Vehicle License Tax (VLT)

## 3. Regional Transportation Authority

- a. Transaction Privilege Tax (funds RTA projects only)

## 4. Local impact fees

## 5. General fund

## 6. Transit Fare Box

# Transportation Revenue Stream

## State

- Gas tax and VLT deposited into the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF)
- Returns to State Highway Fund, managed by ADOT

## Federal

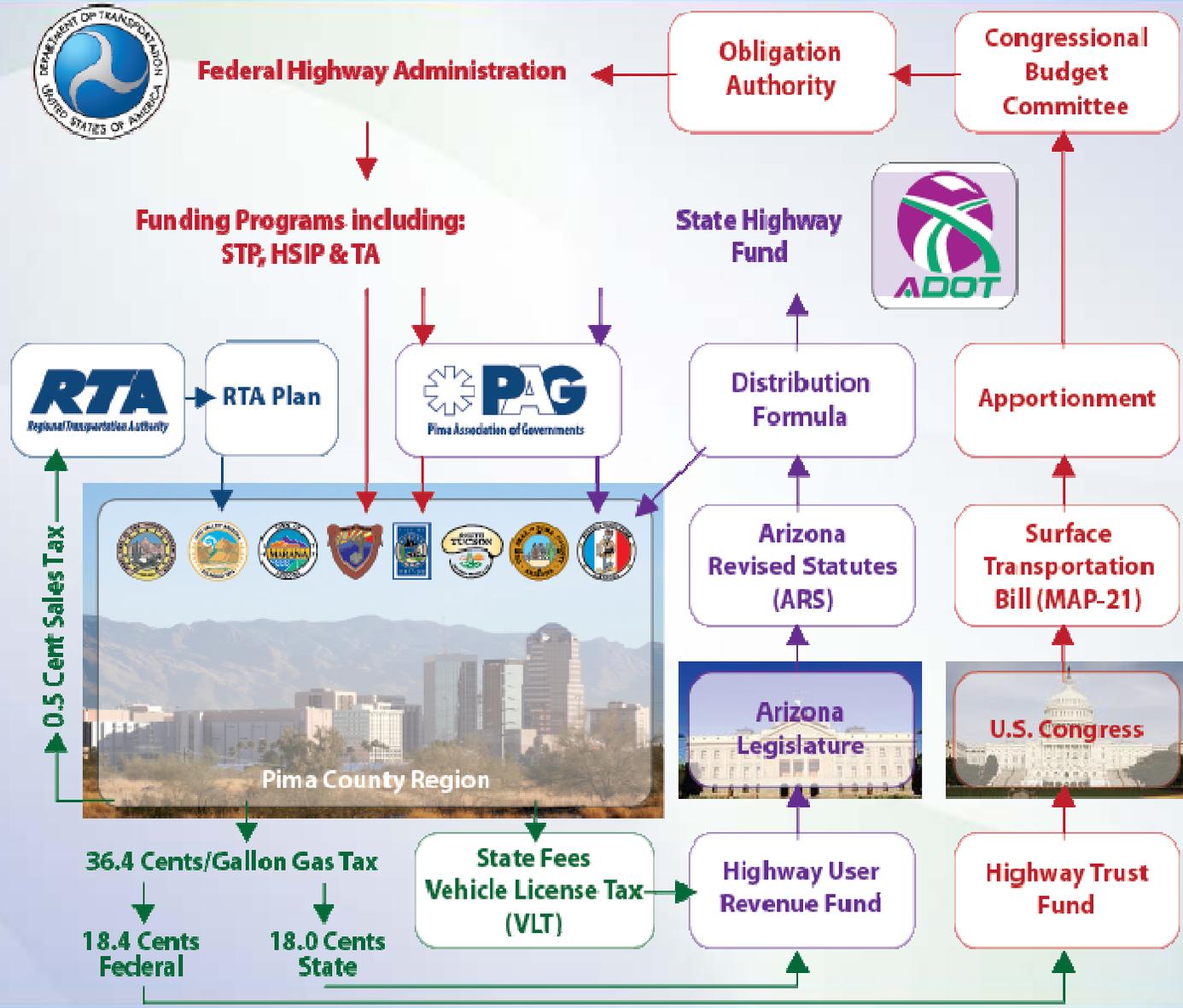
- Gas tax deposited into the Highway Trust Fund – Returns to region through STP, HSIP and TA Funding Programs

**PAG** - receives HURF, STP, HSIP and TA funds for RTP/TIP

## Local impact fees

**RTA** - transaction privilege tax (RTA only)

# How the Money Flows back to our Region



# Highway User Revenue Fund FY 2012 Actual Revenue Distribution Flow

(Dollars in Millions)

**NOTES:**

/1. Appropriation of 662,600 to MVD for the vehicle registration enforcement and 3rd party programs and 888.7 million to the state highway fund for MVD operations in FY 2012.

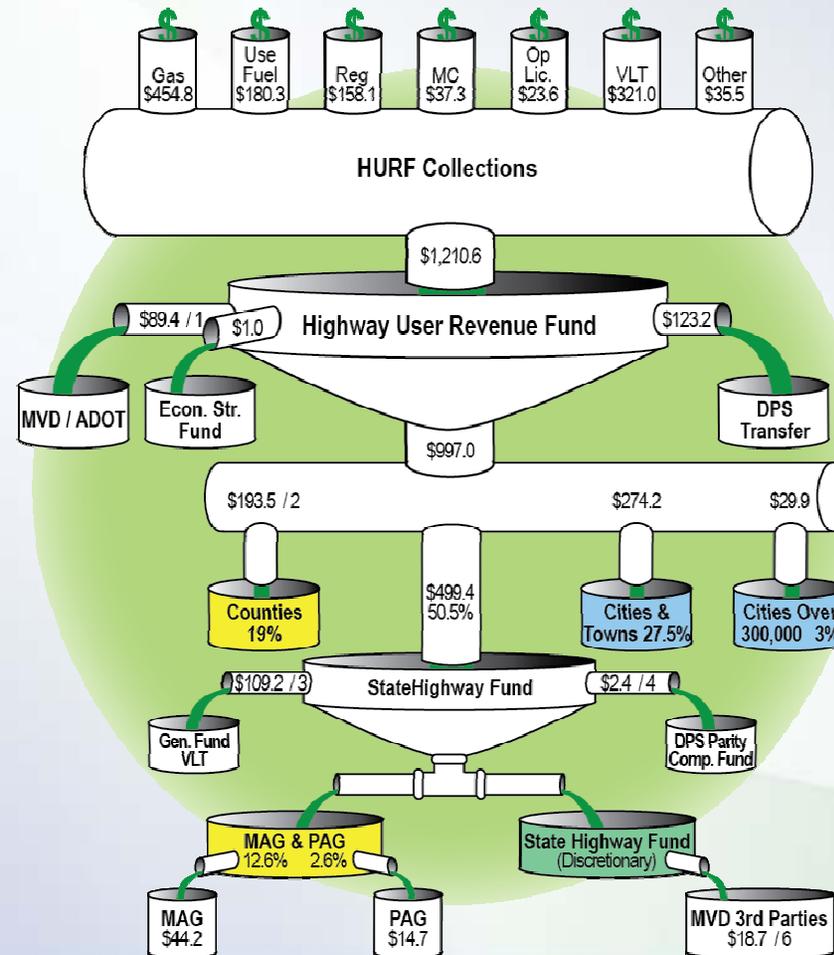
/2. Per Laws 2011, 1st Regular Session, Chapter 28 (SB 1616) \$4.1 million is transferred from the state highway fund share of HURF to the 10 least populated counties in FY 2012.

/3. Per Laws 2011, 1st Regular Session, Chapter 24 (SB 1612) \$105.8 million of the state highway fund share of HURF VLT was appropriated to the state general fund in FY 2012. Per Laws 2011, 1st Regular Session, Chapter 28 (SB 1616) transferred \$1.2 million from the state highway fund share of VLT generated from the difference in the two-year and five-year VLT to the state general fund. Laws 2010, 7th Special Session, Chapter 12 (HB 2012) an amount equal to 90 percent of the fees collected under 28-4802 (A) and 60 percent of the fees collected under 28-4802 (B) shall be transferred from the state highway fund share of VLT to the state general fund at \$2.1 million. The \$109.2 million will not be deposited into HURF before the transfer.

/4. Per Laws 2005, Chapter 306 (SB 1119), 1.51 percent of the state highway fund share of HURF VLT is distributed to the DPS Parity Compensation Fund.

/5. The 12.5% (statutory) and 2.6% (non-statutory) allocations from the State Highway Fund share of HURF distributions.

/6. With the elimination of the VLT distribution to the state highway fund, a distribution is made from the state highway fund to MVD Third Parties for the collection of VLT.



# Transportation Funding Trends

## Declining HURF Funds

- Decrease in gallons of gasoline sold
- Improved fuel economy in vehicles

## Tax Rates on Gasoline

- State and federal rates have not changed since 1990 and 1993, respectively
- Change requires 2/3 majority vote in state Legislature; separate vote in Congress

## RTA tax effective through June 20, 2026

- Requires new plan development
- Requires tax extension
- Requires voter approval

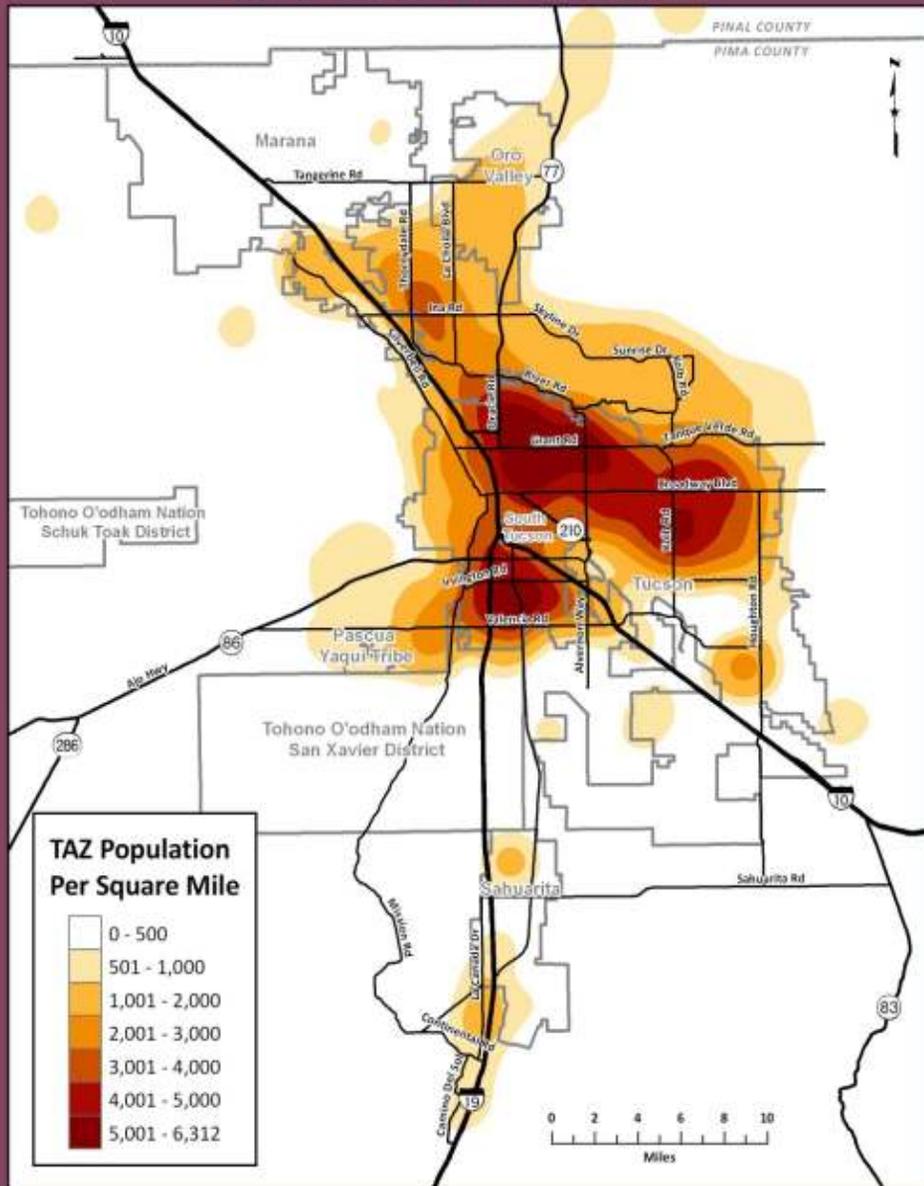
# Regional Growth Trends



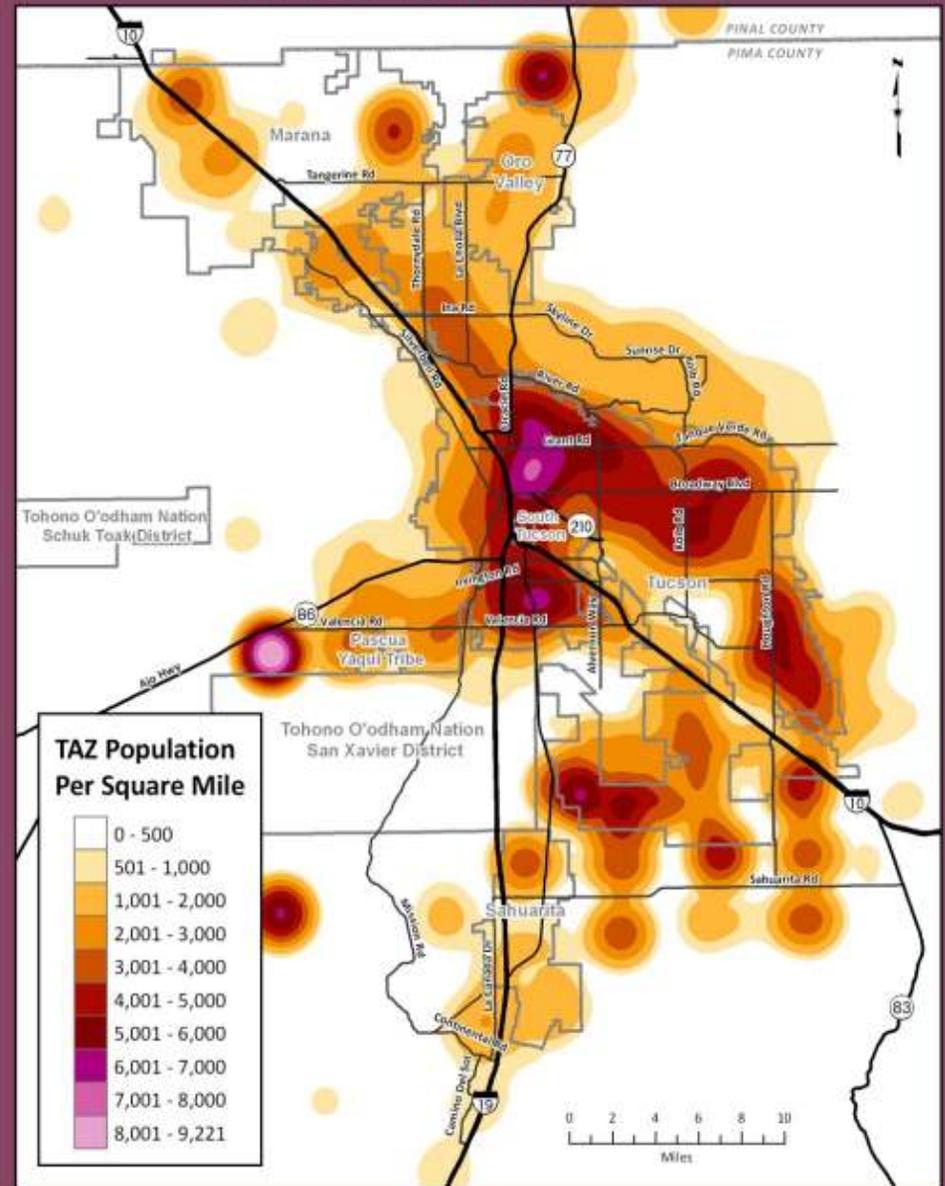
Pima County's current annual growth rate through 2050 ranges from as low as 1 percent to as high as 1.6 percent. This adds about 10,000 to 16,000 people per year.

# Growth anticipated in 2040 RTP

**POPULATION DENSITY 2005**



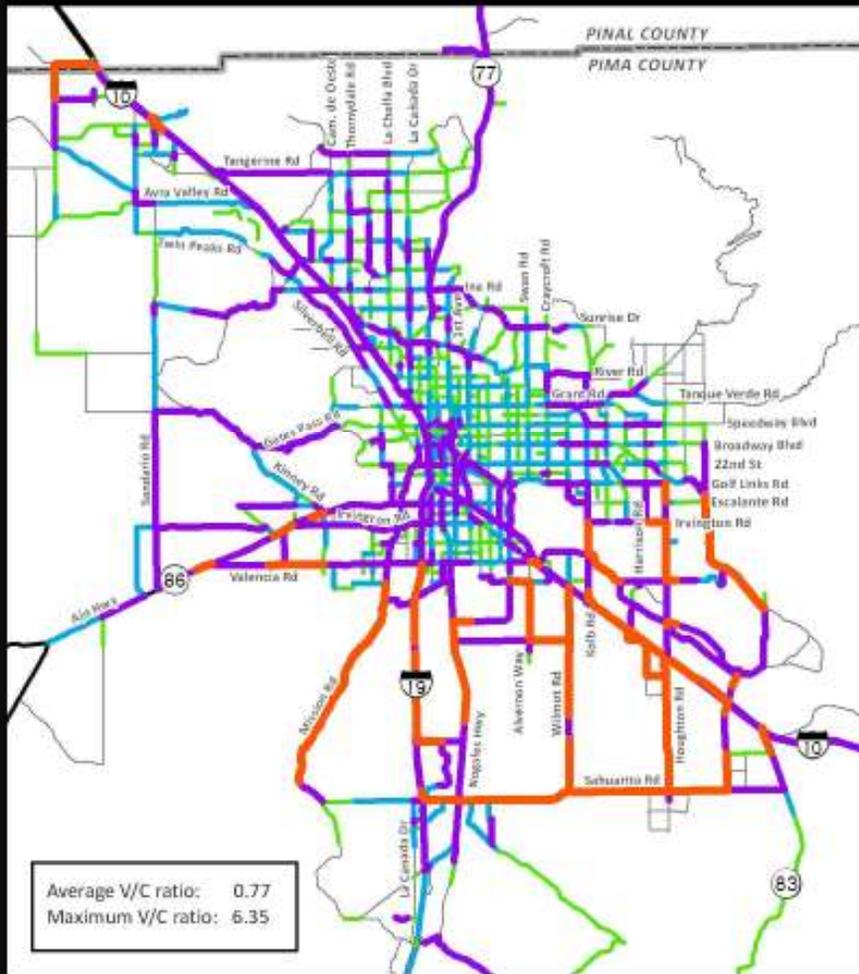
**POPULATION DENSITY 2040**



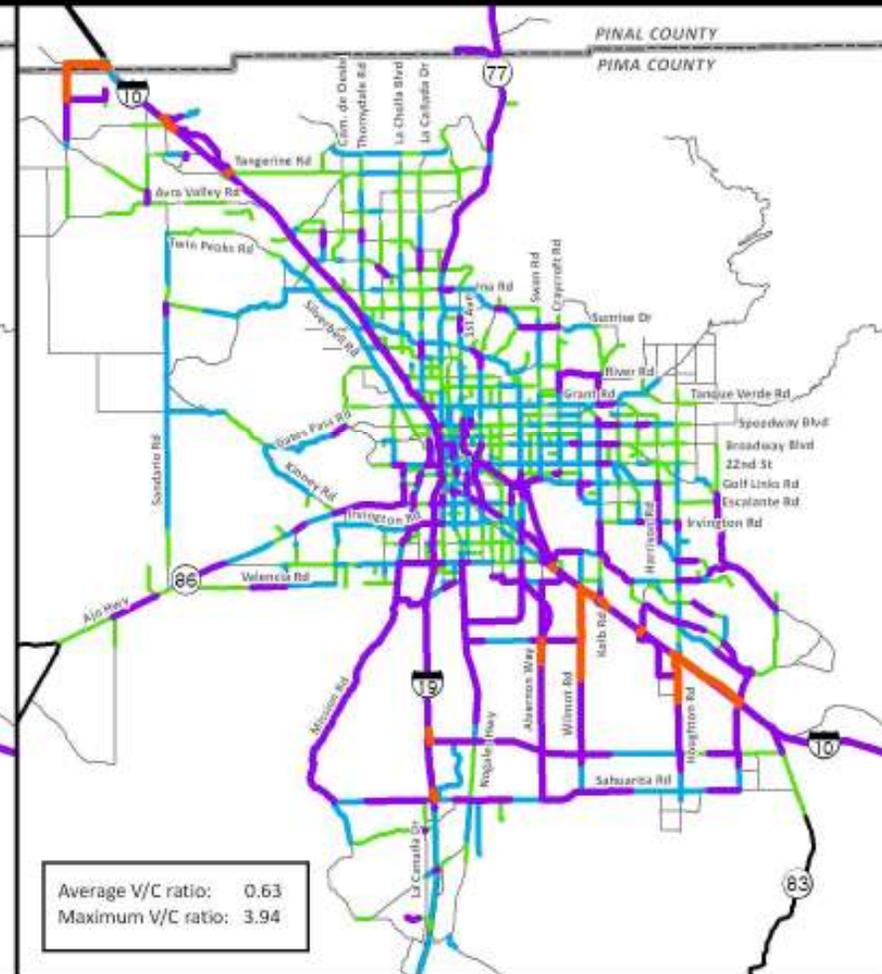
# Traffic Congestion as identified in 2040 RTP

## 2040 TUCSON METRO TRAFFIC CONGESTION (MORNING PEAK HOURS, 6:30 AM - 8:30 AM)

2040 NO BUILD



2040 WITH RTP PROJECTS



"2040 No Build" scenario includes projects with committed funding.

"2040 With RTP Projects" scenario includes projects with additional possible funding.

Congestion levels displayed are based on the higher value of the two traffic directions.

V/C (Volume/Capacity) is the ratio of travel demand during a certain time period (volume) to the number of vehicles the street can hold (capacity).



Extremely Severe (2.01 +)  
Severe (1.01 - 2.00)  
Heavy (0.76 - 1.00)

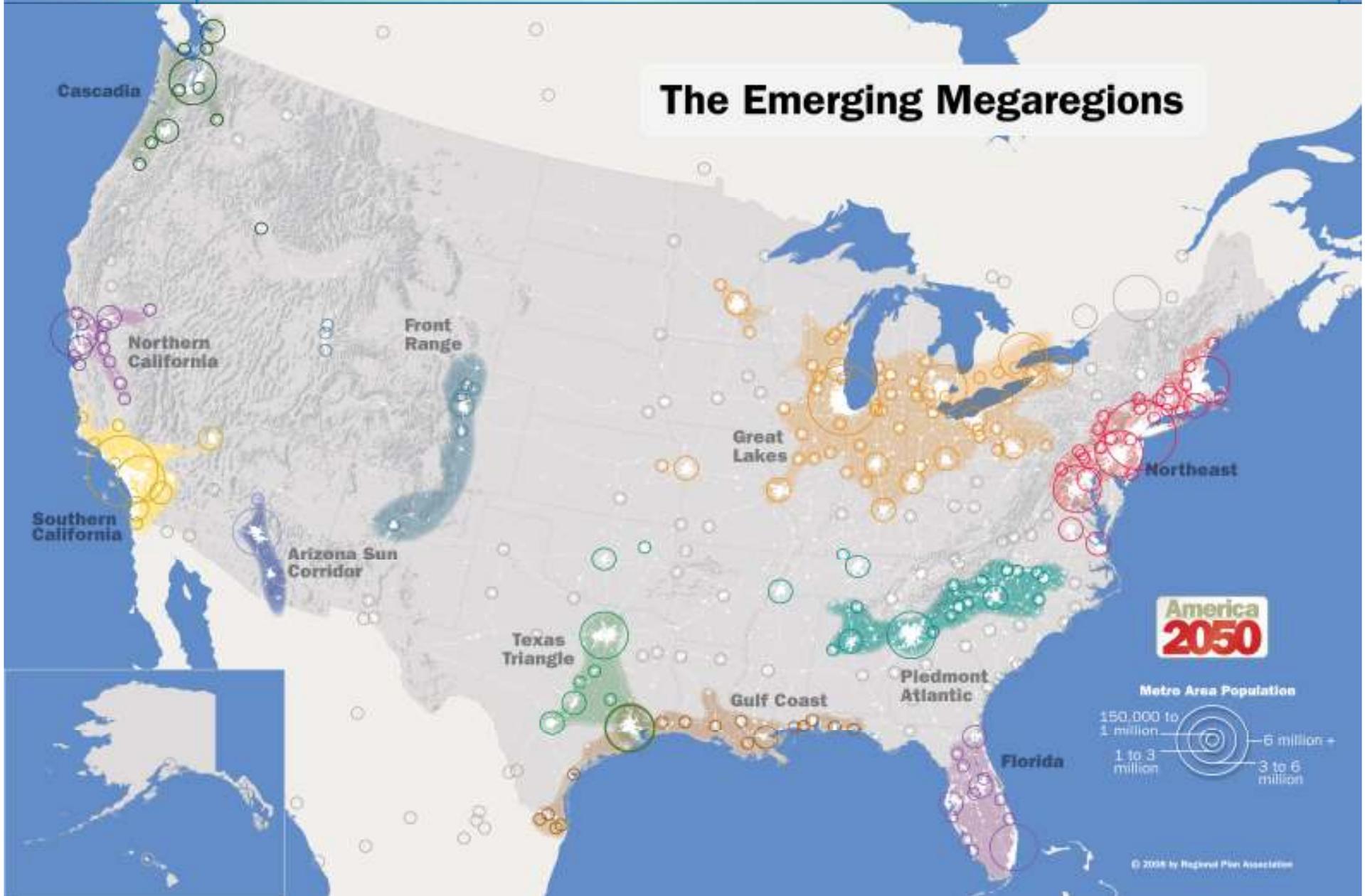
Moderate (0.51 - 0.75)  
Low (0.00 - 0.50)

# Sun Corridor Considerations

The Arizona “Sun Corridor” is a megaregion, or a megapolitan, an area that encompasses the Tucson-Phoenix corridor and is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. Population is expected to double to 10 million by 2050. Such growth calls for a close look at impact on the following:

- Transportation/Transit
- Environment/Water Supply
- Housing

# The Emerging Megaregions

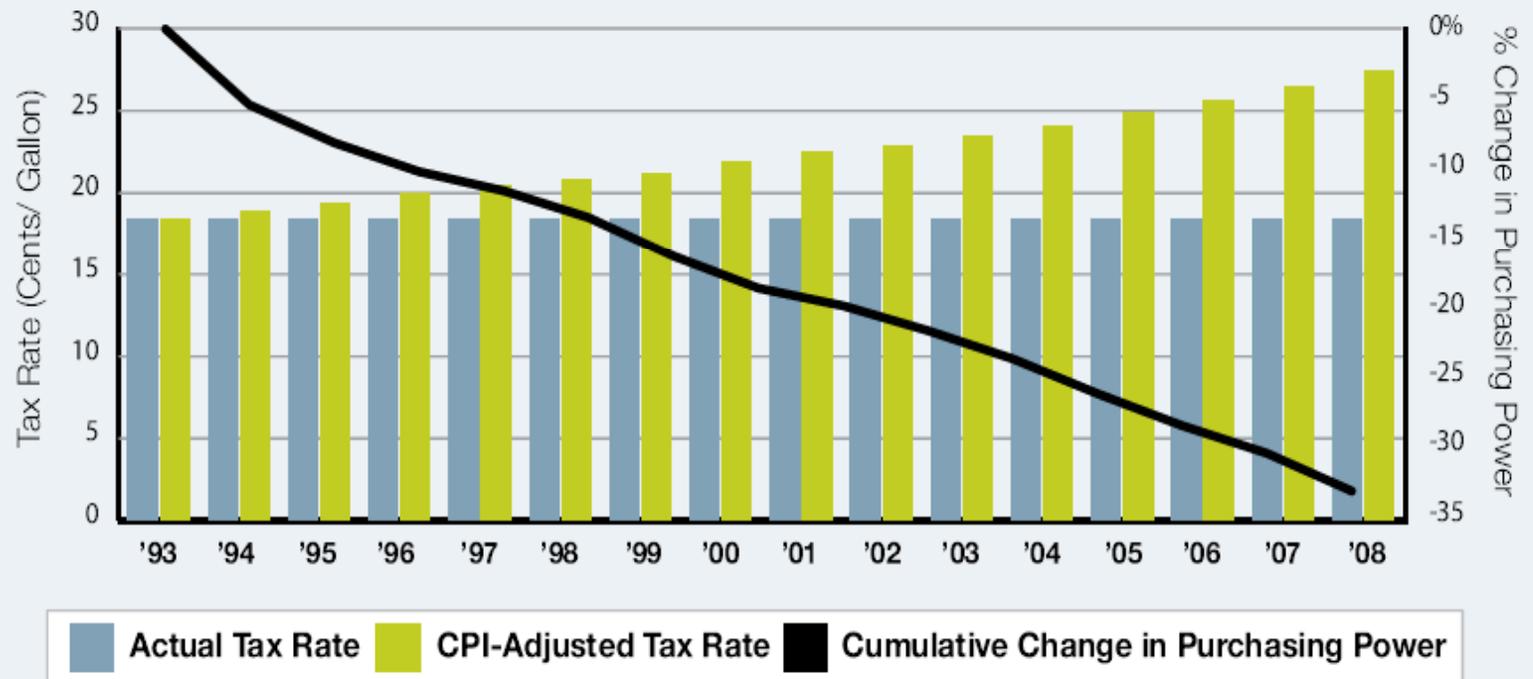


# **Our Transportation Challenges**

- 1) Funding Challenges
- 2) Pavement Management
- 3) Political Challenges

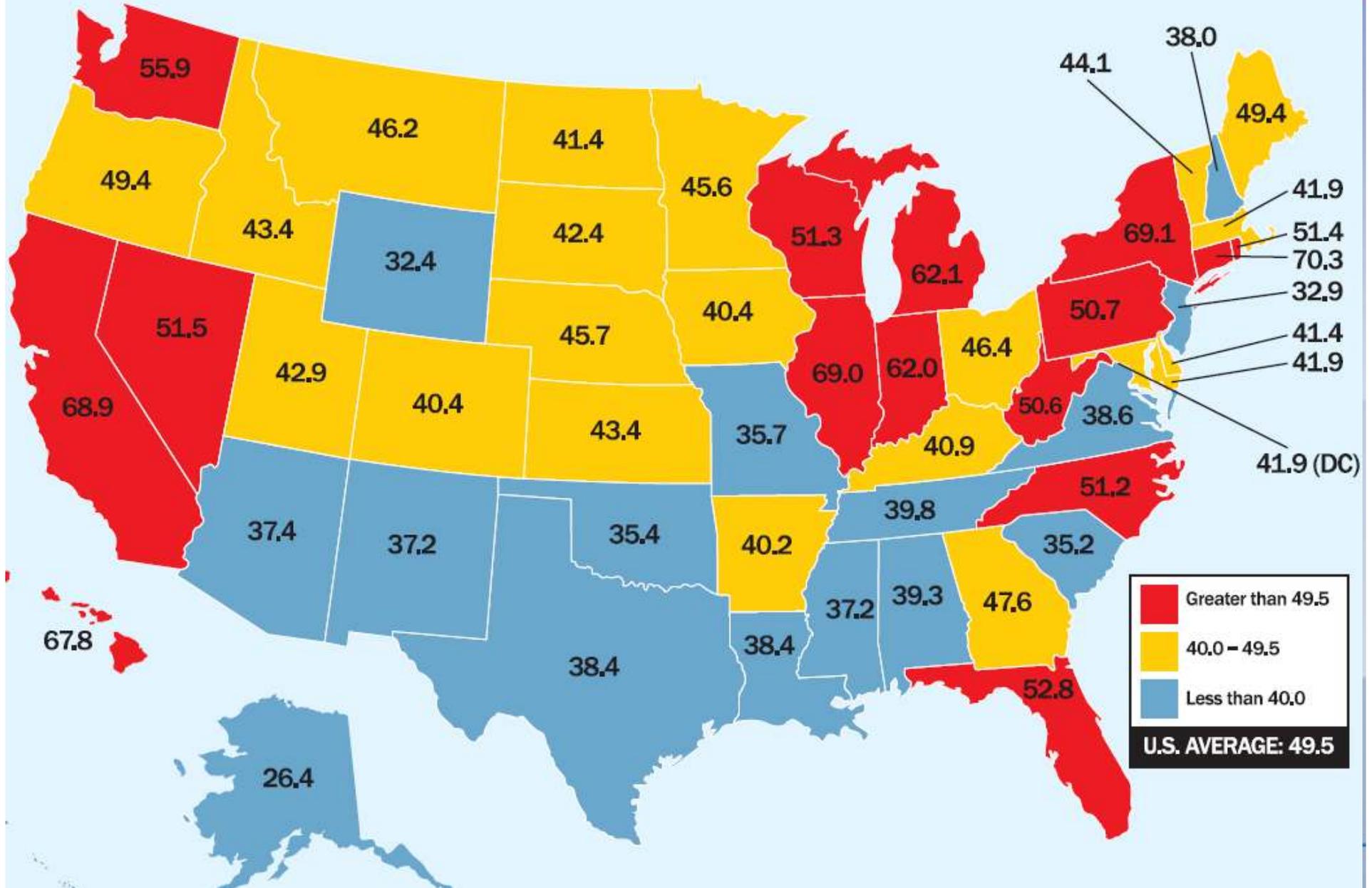
# Loss in purchasing power

## EXHIBIT 2-9: FEDERAL GASOLINE TAX RATE AND LOSS IN PURCHASING POWER

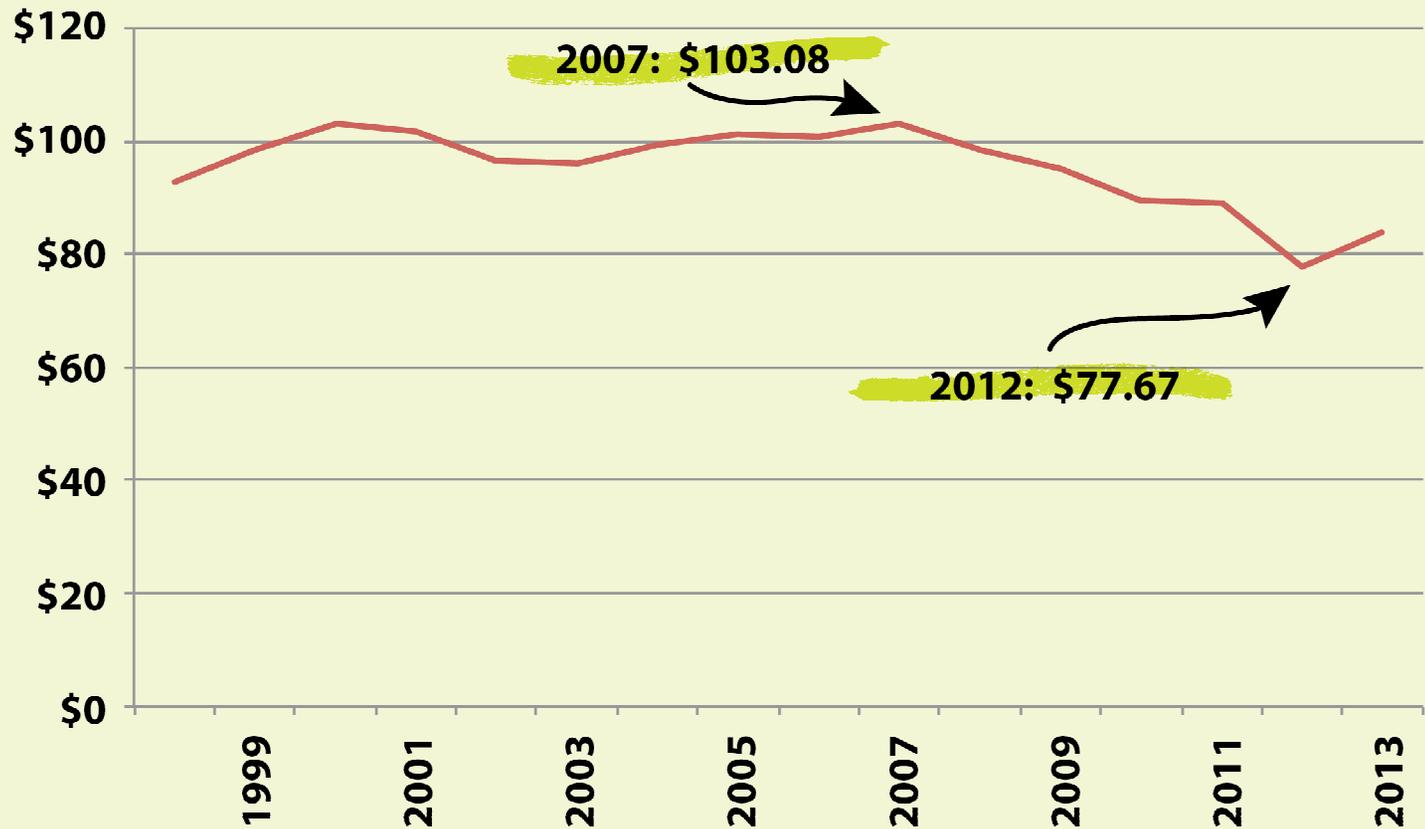


Source: FHWA 2006 Highway Statistics, Table FE-21B, indexed using CPI-U as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# AZ tax rates comparisons



### Local Government HURF per capita in Pima County



Pavement  
preservation –  
Otherwise, known as:

# FIXING OUR POTHOLES



# Fiscal Year 13 Pavement Preservation Program

City of Tucson Mayor and Council approved one-year, \$20 million street rehabilitation program

Funding was made available by restructuring the FY13 HURF debt, the increase of HURF revenue and General Fund money



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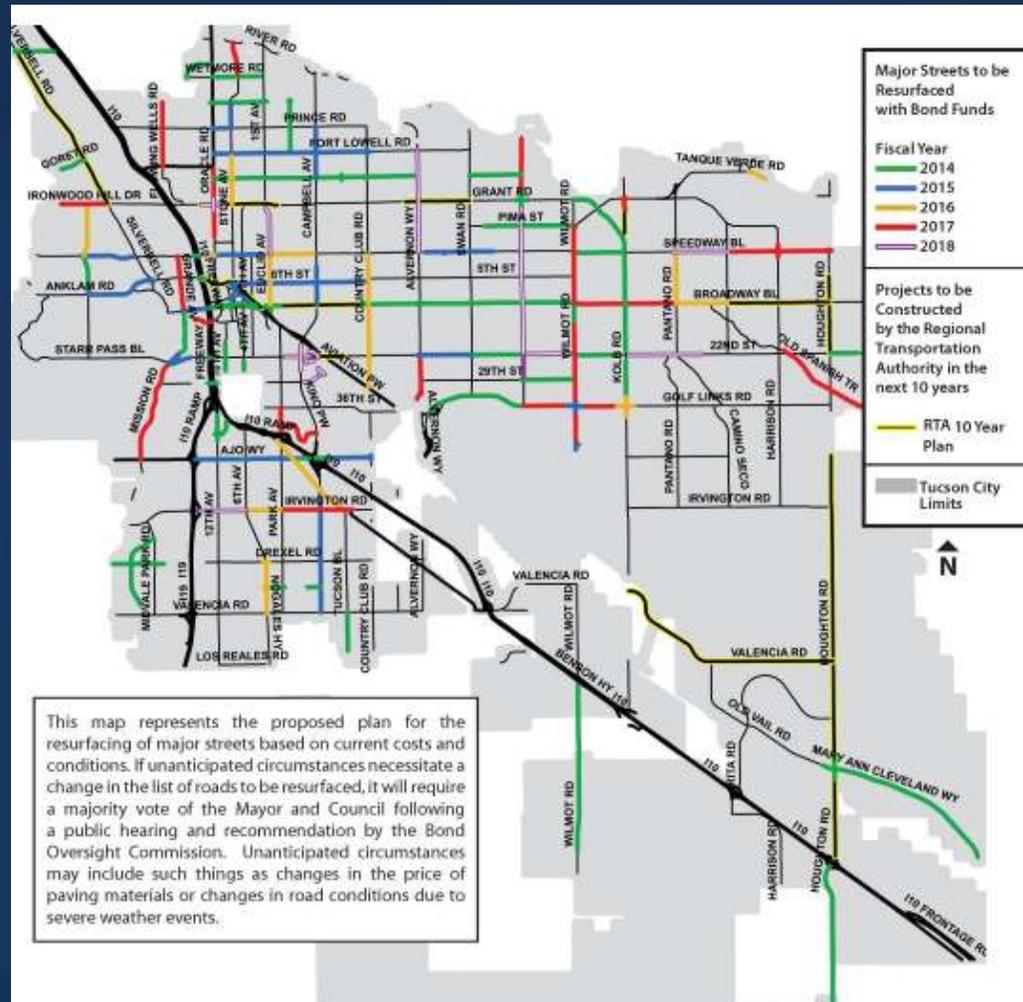


# Voter Passed Proposition 409

- \$100 million in General Obligation Bonds over 5 year period to improve the condition of City Streets
  - 85% allocated for major streets
  - 15% allocated for residential streets
- Bond Oversight Commission
  - 11 voting members
    - 7 selected by Mayor and Council
    - 4 selected by the City Manager
  - Will meet quarterly to review progress and oversee the expenditure of bond funds



# Proposed Plan for Resurfacing Major Streets



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## **In Conclusion**

Wonder how your tax dollars are spent on transportation projects?

Wonder why project scheduling sometimes doesn't seem to make sense?

Wonder how needed transportation improvements will be funded in the future?

Wonder how you can get involved to make a difference?



# Thank You!



Jim DeGrood  
[jdegrood@PAGregion.com](mailto:jdegrood@PAGregion.com)  
(520) 792-1093

Carlos de Leon  
[Carlos.deLeon@TucsonAZ.gov](mailto:Carlos.deLeon@TucsonAZ.gov)

Andrew McGovern  
[Andrew.Mcgovern@TucsonAZ.gov](mailto:Andrew.Mcgovern@TucsonAZ.gov)  
(520) 791-4529

## Q&A session

[www.PAGregion.com](http://www.PAGregion.com)

[www.RTAmobility.com](http://www.RTAmobility.com)

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/transportation>

