

From: Clarinda Vail

Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 11:49 AM

To:

Cc: Charlie Hendrix

Subject: Timely Comments for ADOT FY 2026-2030 Five Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program

To: Arizona Department of Transportation

Date: 5/23/25

Regarding: Comments for ADOT FY 2026-2030 Five Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program

From: Clarinda Vail- Town of Tusayan Mayor

To Whom It May Concern,

The Town of Tusayan is the gateway community located one mile south of The Grand Canyon National Park's South Entrance (GCNP).

We are happy to see some improvements in this plan on Highway 64 north of Williams. However, we want to remain consistent with our comments to any ADOT plan so these comments may seem out of the scope of this five-year plan

With our towns proximity to GCNP we have a very busy State Route 64 running through our tiny town. The lines from the gates can back up through town, during busy days of the year, but all times of year we have lost lives on HWY 64/180. (I know lives are lost on highways all over our state, but the traffic counts on the roads to The Amazing GCNP cannot be ignored any longer.) The south rim is open 365 days a year. These are the roads that MOST ALL people from around the world will travel to get to GCNP.

We appreciate all that ADOT does and would only like to be even closer partners in the future for HWY 64 and HWY 180 needs/improvements. The Town of Tusayan has an IGA with The Tusayan Fire District (TFD) that covers most of HWY 64/180. Though is out of its district and boundaries, for TFD and our town, we contribute financially to TFD's work of protecting and providing emergency services for these vital roads for our state. The town has an IGA with ADOT for improvements done in Tusayan in 2009. The town and ADOT have completed the restriping to help the line of cars from north of town to the south rim gates. I only mention these items to show just a few of the many ways we are good partners together already.

- HWY 64 has been headlight HWY for approximately 30 years. The town, local people and I personally have been making comments to various ADOT plans for many, many years. (With just two passing lanes added in that time and one of which was put in a place that took away one of the few places to pass for the north bound lanes for many miles.)
- HWY 64 from Williams to GCNP should be split 4 lanes with shoulders, 2 lanes in each direction. ADOT has the right of way to do it. (I don't think passing lanes are the answer anymore for certain busy times of the day and year.)
- HWY 180 should continue to be improved and develop more shoulders that would allow for vehicles to pull over without impeding traffic. (Bicycles on HWY 180 can be scary for all parties.)

HWY 93 to Las Vegas has somehow has gotten split 4 lanes when most tax money, for the visitors on it, go to Las Vegas/Nevada. Please invest in the many local economies of The Grand Canyon National Parks only entrance that is open 365 days a year. We need equitable access to state plans and funds to this national park and wonder of the world that supports our entire state's economy.

On page 24 of 2050 ADOT long range plan it states "improve transportation connectivity to established and emerging activity centers and tourist destinations." Grand Canyon South Rim and Tusayan are THAT destination, with the busiest highways to Grand Canyon National Park.

Thank you,
Clarinda Vail
Proud Mayor of Tusayan

928-637-8912- Town Cell Number



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