



CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL

211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Main Line: 928-213-2000

Website: <https://www.flagstaff.az.gov>

April 6, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chairman, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2251 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20

Dear Chairman DeFazio:

In alignment with Congressional efforts to replace the expiring Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, the Flagstaff City Council would like to urge our congressional delegation to include a \$46.9 million authorization for the Lone Tree Corridor project in Flagstaff within the upcoming surface transportation reauthorization bill.

The Lone Tree Corridor project works to establish a safer and more inclusive transportation system in Flagstaff by increasing important north-south arterial connectivity from JW Powell Boulevard to Sawmill Road. The project also benefits the community by filling gaps in pedestrian and bicycle systems, improving transit stops and shelters, installing conduit for fiber optic cable, adding medians for safety, adding lanes for capacity, and constructing new Interstate 40 bridges. Specific information about the project can be found below.

- The Lone Tree Corridor project is on both the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and on the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
 - Projects 100578 (Lone Tree/ I-40), 101523 (Lone Tree Road Widening) and 101527 (Pedestrian-Bicycle-FUTS Projects) are listed on the STIP.
 - The Lone Tree/ I-40 project, the Lone Tree Road Widening project and the Pedestrian-Bicycle-FUTS Project are listed on the Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization's TIP.
- A twenty percent local match for the Lone Tree Corridor project was approved by Flagstaff voters in 2018 as Proposition 419 and the City of Flagstaff has a dedicated 21-year funding stream with local match appropriation over \$9.38 million in FY26.
- Letters of support for the Lone Tree Corridor project from Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (Mountain Line), Northern Arizona University, Coconino County, Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce, Arizona Department of Transportation, Coconino Community College, Flagstaff Unified School District, Metroplan and others have either been received or are forthcoming.



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- The local match portion of the Lone Tree Corridor project is funded by Proposition 419, which was approved during the 2018 election. Preparation for this proposition involved approximately 60 public outreach meetings that included questions and answers. Most recently, the Flagstaff City Council and partner agencies, including Metroplan, have publicly discussed the Lone Tree Corridor project at Council and Board meetings in March of 2021.
- A comprehensive planning process has been and will continue to be followed. The project is in the 15% design stage and design work will continue.
- Preliminary environmental review of the Lone Tree Corridor project indicates that it will be eligible for a Categorical Exclusion among much of its length and will require an Environmental Assessment for the remainder.
- Federal funding has not been received previously for this project.

The Lone Tree Corridor project advances the goals of the surface transportation authorization legislation, including building a safer, more accessible transportation network that encourages multi-modal transportation while reducing carbon pollution. The Flagstaff City Council would greatly appreciate the Committee's support of a \$46.9 million authorization for the Lone Tree Corridor project in Flagstaff.

Thank you for your advocacy,

cc: Congressman Tom O'Halleran
Congressman Greg Stanton
Senator Kyrsten Sinema
Senator Mark Kelly