



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: 6/21/2022

*\*= Mandatory, information must be provided*

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A".

**\*Title:**

Passenger Rail Route and Service between Tucson and Phoenix

**\*Introduction/Background:**

In December 2016, the Arizona Department of Transportation completed the Arizona Passenger Rail Corridor Study: Tucson to Phoenix Final Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement which recommended a passenger rail route from Tucson to Phoenix. The Arizona Passenger Rail Study determined that frequent and reliable passenger rail service will expand economic opportunities and provide important regional connections between Arizona cities and towns. In 2021, Amtrak released the Amtrak Connects US Plan to grow rail service across the country, including proposed new service between Tucson and Phoenix.

**\*Discussion:**

Pima County supports and endorses the development of an passenger rail route between Tucson and Phoenix and Amtrak's reauthorization proposal to create a Corridor Development Program.

**\*Conclusion:**

This resolution is a necessary step to enter into a multi-jurisdictional partnerships between Amtrak, the State of Arizona and the cities, towns and counties through which the service will operate.

**\*Recommendation:**

Pima County Department of Transportation recommends the Board of Supervisors adopt the proposed resolution.

**\*Fiscal Impact:**

None, the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Bill includes 12 billion for new rail service that could include passenger rail between Tucson and Phoenix.

**\*Board of Supervisor District:**

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Department: Department of Transportation

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Department Director Signature: Kathryn Skinner

Digitally signed by Kathryn Skinner  
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Date: 2022.06.06 14:28:31 -0700

Date: 6/6/2022

Deputy County Administrator Signature:

Date: 6/6/2022

County Administrator Signature:

Date: 6/6/2022

**RESOLUTION 2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUPPORTING AN  
AMTRAK PASSENGER RAIL ROUTE AND SERVICE BETWEEN TUCSON AND PHOENIX**

**The Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona finds:**

1. In December 2016, the Arizona Department of Transportation completed the Arizona Passenger Rail Corridor Study: Tucson to Phoenix Final Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement, which recommended a passenger rail route between Tucson and the Phoenix metropolitan area;
2. The Arizona Passenger Rail Study determined that frequent and reliable passenger rail service will expand economic opportunities and provide important regional connections between Arizona cities and towns;
3. The Arizona Passenger Rail Study reported that passenger rail service between Tucson and the Phoenix metropolitan area greatly enhances transportation access, reduces traffic congestion on Interstate 10, and provides for safer and more reliably consistent travel between both cities, particularly during hazardous dust storms or when crashes occur that block or stop interstate travel;
4. In 2021, Amtrak released the Amtrak Connects U.S. Plan to grow passenger rail service across the United States, including proposed new passenger rail service between Tucson and the Phoenix metropolitan area, and a reauthorization proposal to create a Corridor Development Program;
5. The 2021 U.S. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Bill includes \$12 billion for new rail service, which could include passenger rail service between Tucson and the Phoenix metropolitan area;
6. On July 13, 2021, 11 mayors from southern Arizona, including Tucson, Phoenix, Oro Valley, and Marana, sent a letter to Arizona's U.S. congressional leaders, supporting Amtrak's proposal for a passenger rail service connecting Tucson and the Phoenix metropolitan area; and
7. On June 2, 2022, the Pima Association of Governments, Regional Council, voted unanimously to support the proposed Amtrak initiative.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that**

Pima County supports and endorses the development of passenger rail service between Tucson and the Phoenix metropolitan area;

Pima County supports and endorses Amtrak's reauthorization proposal to create a Corridor Development Program; and

Pima County supports a multi-jurisdictional partnership between Amtrak, the State of Arizona, and the Arizona cities, towns, and counties through which the passenger rail service will operate.


Passed and adopted, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

 June 8, 2022  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Attorney