



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 19, 2026

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshar 
County Administrator

Re: **Additional Information for Board of Supervisors June 23, 2026, Addendum Item Related to the Pima County Regional Middle Mile Project**

Background

Pima County received a U.S. Department of Commerce NTIA Middle Mile Grant 04-40-MM588 that was approved by the Board of Supervisors on July 11, 2023. A CIP project charter for the Pima County Regional Middle Mile Project was developed and approved on September 7, 2023, which determined the project delivery method to be Design-Build.

A procurement package was assembled and advertised June 6, 2024, for a Design-Build team to design the route, develop necessary clearances and permit documents, procure materials and construct the Middle Mile fiber loop. Through the County's qualifications-based procurement process the Design-Build team of eX2 / Kimley-Horn / Team Fishel was selected and approved for contract on October 15, 2024, Board of Supervisor's meeting.

Notice to Proceed was issued to the Design-Build team October 23, 2024, starting the design effort. Various challenges were encountered and addressed through the design process including cultural resources conditions, and coordination with multiple federal, state, and local entities. Through the efforts of Kimley-Horn, Team Fishel, and the County's personnel and cultural consultants, Pima County has the necessary permits, inter-governmental agreements, environmental requirements, and plans ready for the initial construction phases.

Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) packages #1 and #2 were issued for early material purchase by the Design-Builder in preparation for beginning construction in April/May 2026.

GMP #3 submittal for construction was received by the County on March 18, 2026. With NTIA grant schedule requirements looming, and the parties unable to negotiate an executable agreement, the County rejected GMP3 and canceled the contract for convenience on June 12, 2026.

With cancellation of the Design-Build contract, it is necessary to expedite procurement of contracts for the remaining design and construction work to meet the time requirements of the NTIA grant. As such, I have authorized using a "competition impractical" selection process, as allowed by Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 34. This approach, enables contracts to be completed based on County confirmation that selected contractors possess proper knowledge of the project, can plan and perform the work, and ensure adherence to NTIA grant requirements.

JUN 19 2026 10:26 AM
JAN LESHAR
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
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Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors authorize the Procurement Director to execute necessary consultant and Construction Manager at Risk contracts and all needed modifications, including Guaranteed Maximum Price packages, provided that the not to exceed amount of the contracts does not exceed the remaining grant funding up to \$39,643,897.29, and that the contract expiration dates do not exceed June 30, 2028, which allows for all contract close-out activities and final submittals.

JKL/dym

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Chad Kasmar, Deputy County Administrator
Bruce Collins, Director, Procurement Department
Rod Lane, Director, Project Design and Construction Department
Michelle Simon, Director, Office of Digital Inclusion