

Arizona Councils of Governments (COG) and  
Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) Directors  
**Grant Update- August 2020**

**Rural Transportation Incubator:**

- Logistics
  - Funding: \$1.6 million project with \$300,000 from The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, \$217,000 cash match from partners, and \$1.5 million in in-kind contributions
  - Timeline: April 17, 2019 to April 16, 2021
  - Partners: AARP AZ, Arizona Transit Association, Central Yavapai MPO, Apache Junction, Wickenburg Community Services, FHWA, Grantmakers in Aging, Lake Havasu MPO, NACOG, SCMPO, Foundation for Senior Living/Freedom Express, Verde Valley Caregivers Coalition, and MAG
- Community status: The following communities were accepted into the second-year cohort of the incubator.

<i><b>Agency</b></i>	<i><b>Implementer Track</b></i>	<i><b>Technology Track</b></i>
<i>Assist to Independence</i>	<i>\$12,500</i>	
<i>TAP AZ Coalition for Military Families</i>	<i>\$25,000</i>	
<i>Foundation for Senior Living</i>	<i>\$18,750</i>	<i>\$23,958</i>
<i>Changepoint Integrated Health</i>	<i>\$12,500</i>	
<i>Interfaith Community Services</i>	<i>\$18,750</i>	<i>\$19,750</i>
<i>New Horizons Disability Empowerment Center</i>		<i>\$13,215</i>
<i>People Who Care</i>	<i>\$18,750</i>	
<i>ViCAP (Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers Program)</i>	<i>\$12,000</i>	
<i>City of Winslow</i>	<i>\$11,750</i>	
<b><i>Total funding</i></b>	<b><i>\$130,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$56,923</i></b>

- Technology status
  - The development of statewide online transportation provider inventory is available to the public at [www.AZRideInfo.com](http://www.AZRideInfo.com). Enhancements to the website in the second year include being able to search by county and allowing owners of the data to update their own information.
  - The incubator has been accepted by ASU and Amazon to participate in a Cloud Innovation Center Challenge. The goal will be to develop a concept for a reporting tool that human services transportation providers can use at no cost. The workshops are scheduled for September, with the concept to be developed at a later date.
- National toolkit status
  - The goal of the Blind Spot toolkit is to encourage philanthropy to support transportation services for older adults. Arizona is featured as a national model. The report includes case studies, tips, and tools to support philanthropic engagement with transportation providers throughout the country.

- The report is available at the following link:  
<http://www.agefriendlyaz.org/News/ArticleId/1189/blind-spot-mobility-and-aging-in-rural-america>.
  - A national webinar will be held on November 10, 2020 at noon AZ time to promote the toolkit. Speakers include CYMPO, AzTA, AARP, and Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust.
- A community toolkit will be developed by March 2021 to support for launching transportation services in rural areas. A national webinar will be held to promote this toolkit as well.

## Value Impact Analysis

- Logistics
  - Funding: \$250,000 in National Economic Partnership funding from FHWA and \$62,500 in match and inkind contributions from partners
  - Timeline: June 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020
  - Partners: Pima Association of Governments, Sun Corridor MPO, and MAG
- Stakeholder Engagement
  - The Advisory Group met and collected valuable feedback from the participants. FHWA remarked that the meeting is a model for other states to follow.
  - Regular meetings have been scheduled with EDR Group, FHWA and ICF. Quarterly Advisory Group meetings are being held as well.
- Tool Development
  - A new module for TREDIS has been developed to quantify the impact of high capacity transportation investments on the economy. This can be determined at the level of the Sun Corridor megaregion, the county, or subregions within a county. The analysis can also be completed to assess the impact on equity. The tool and corresponding training materials will be completed by October 2020.

## Sun Cloud

- Logistics
  - Funding: \$1 million Accelerating Innovation Deployment planning grant from FHWA with \$250,000 in match and inkind contributions from partners
  - Timeline: September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2021
  - Partners: Pima Association of Governments, Sun Corridor MPO, Sierra Vista MPO, ADOT and MAG
- Launch activities status
  - The scope of work has been developed to meet the needs and address the priorities of the partners. The budget will be developed once the scope has been approved by the partners.
  - A task order has been issued to Terrasystems to develop an inventory of the data and methods to collect, analyze, and maintain the data sets developed for this project.
  - An Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2020 to finalize the scope and determine staffing needs.

## Model for Accelerating Prosperity

- Logistics
  - Funding: \$251,000 grant from FHWA with \$62,875 in match and in-kind contributions from partners
  - Timeline: September 30, 2018 to December 31, 2019
  - Partners: Arizona Commerce Authority, Metro Phoenix Export Alliance, PAG, SCMPO, and Vitalyst Health Foundation
- EDGE (Economic Development for the Global Economy) status
  - Technical assistance given to exporters in Phoenix and Tucson through trainings and ExporTech events
  - Report highlighting the key challenges and opportunities for freight and exporting is attached.
  - The report includes an assessment by WSP regarding the impact of electronic logging devices as part of the Truck Parking Study.
- Panel presentation on asset management status
  - On March 27, 2019, more than 200 people attended the Intersection of Aging and Transportation event.
  - A report based on the insights gleaned at the event is available at <http://www.agefriendlyaz.org/News/ArticleId/1196/at-the-intersection-of-aging-and-transportation-creating-healthy-communities>.
- Peer network status
  - Identified 50 MPOs with large populations (1 million or more) using the [Metropolitan Planning Organization \(MPO\) database](#)
    - Conducted high-level website review of each MPO to create an inventory of webpages, datasets, data products/tools, and general topics covered
    - Focus on data visualizations, products, tools, webpages available to the public
  - Selected 15 MPOs that stood out from the list
    - Criteria for top 15:
      - Variety of topics covered
      - Innovative data visualizations
      - Unique data tools/programs used
      - Easily accessible data for public
      - Level of customization and interactivity of tools
      - Interesting infographics, reports, data briefs
  - More in-depth website review of topics and tools covered for the 15
  - Sent out a survey to the selected MPOs to learn more about the data products they have created, as well as lessons learned, challenges, and ideas for collaboration
  - Compiled survey responses
- Planning webinar series to highlight each MPOs best practices and open up collaboration