

RESOLUTION 11 - ____

SUPPORTING THE TIMELY RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MESCAL ROAD/J-SIX RANCH ROAD BRIDGE ON INTERSTATE 10 IN COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2011 a crash occurred between two semi-trucks on Interstate 10 within Cochise County resulting in a magnesium fire under the Mescal Road/J-Six Ranch Road Bridge; and

WHEREAS, that the damage from this incident compromised the integrity of the bridge structure; and

WHEREAS, since the date of this incident the residents in the area have been required to detour to traffic interchanges located five miles to the west and five miles to the east thus resulting in extreme inconvenience to travelers; and

WHEREAS, Cochise County is in the process of studying alternative routes north and south of I-10 outside of the I-10 right-of-way, but there are many barriers related to right-of-way, drainageways with potential 404 clearance requirements and budget constraints that may not make temporary alternative routes feasible in a short period of time; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Department of Transportation has also considered constructing alternative frontage roads within the I-10 right-of-way, but there are insurmountable barriers related to acquisition of right-of-way, interstate control of access and compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act to construct a temporary detour in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief funds have been made available to the Arizona Department of Transportation to reconstruct the damaged bridge,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cochise County Board of Supervisors hereby declares their support for the timely reconstruction of the Mescal Road/J-Six Ranch Road Bridge; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Arizona Department of Transportation is hereby urged to direct adequate staff resources to address this unexpected and critical reconstruction project; and,

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IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Arizona Department of Transportation is hereby urged to expedite design and bid processes and to offer contractor incentives for early completion; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that to request consideration for opening the reconstructed bridge to traffic at the earliest opportunity and minimizing any construction related delays at the State Route 90 interchange project during the detour diversion from the Mescal Road/J-Six Ranch Road Bridge; and,

IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED that the Cochise County Board of Supervisors wishes to express appreciation for the rapid response of the Arizona Department of Transportation bridge inspection team and Safford District engineers to the March 15, 2011 incident on Interstate 10.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Cochise County, Arizona, this day of _____, 2011.

Pat Call, Chairman
Cochise County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Katie A. Howard,
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Britt W. Hanson,
Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney