



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives
Representative Frank Carroll (R-22)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bill to Extend Critical Transportation Infrastructure Funding for Maricopa County Advances in the House as Support Grows

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – The House Transportation Committee has approved [HB 2598](#), bipartisan, pro-growth legislation sponsored by State Representative Frank Carroll, who chairs the committee, that will allow Maricopa County voters to decide whether to renew a key funding stream for building critical transportation projects, such as roads, bridges, and highways.

“If you’ve ever been to Los Angeles, you know what happens when you fail to invest in your infrastructure,” said Representative Carroll. **“Maricopa County continues to experience record growth, which puts tremendous demand on our existing transportation infrastructure. For our roads, bridges, and highways to keep pace with that tremendous growth, it’s necessary to have a funding source to pay for infrastructure investments.”**

Maricopa County, unlike every other county in the state, requires legislative authorization to put a transportation funding proposal to the voters. Current funding is set to expire at the end of 2025, unless voters act to extend it. Over the years, this funding has helped build the transportation system we now have, including parts of Loop 202 and 303, and widening of major thoroughfares throughout the county.

Reauthorized funding will support the construction of major new freeway projects in the region, including future State Route 30 and State Route 24. These new routes will provide significant traffic relief in the Southwest and East Valley areas, and help better move goods, services, and people.

“No one wants to spend their precious time stuck in crushing traffic,” Carroll added. **“No one likes taxes either, especially me. But we all value having good roads, and this plan is necessary to keep Valley transportation infrastructure some of the best in the nation. Let’s not let Arizona turn into California. I am confident that after this legislation passes, Arizona voters will choose to keep Arizona moving.”**

Fellow Transportation Committee members expressed their support for HB 2598.

“As legislators, we have a responsibility to look down the road to anticipate what the transportation needs are going to be in this state in 25 years. Failing to plan for those future needs to get ahead of expected growth fails our constituents and our communities. This legislation gives voters the power to make the decision of whether or not to extend the funding.” -Representative David Cook (R-8).

“This is a key economic development tool for Arizona’s future. Population growth in Maricopa County has exploded decade after decade. Transportation infrastructure has kept up with this growth because of the voter-approved funding stream that is now set to expire. The decision of whether it should be renewed can only be made by county voters. The Legislature should let them have that opportunity.” -Representative Justin Wilmeth (R-15), Vice Chairman.

HB 2598 ensures there is full accounting for every project dollar that is authorized. [SB 1356](#), mirror legislation sponsored by Senator Tyler Pace (R-25), is simultaneously moving in the Senate, and was unanimously approved by the Transportation and Technology Committee. If the legislation receives the support of both chambers, Maricopa County voters will have an opportunity this November to extend the funding for an additional 25 years.

Numerous city and county leaders, and business organizations have expressed support for the legislation, including Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Greater Phoenix Economic Council, Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Western Maricopa Coalition (WESTMARC), East Valley Partnership, East Valley Chamber of Commerce Alliance, Arizona Rock Products Association, and Arizona Trucking Association.

Frank Carroll is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 22, which includes Surprise, Sun City West, Peoria, and Glendale. Follow him on Twitter at @RepFrankCarroll.

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