

NEWS BRIEFS

REVISIONS TO HAZARD ABATEMENT ORDINANCE BEING CONSIDERED BY P & Z:

The existing ordinance identifies a process whereby rubbish, trash, filth, debris or damaged and dilapidated buildings which constitute a hazard to public health and safety may be removed within the unincorporated area of Cochise County.

Revisions to this 1987 Ordinance was initiated by the County Administration at the request of the Board of Supervisors. P & Z Staff has been working with the County Attorney's Office to incorporate additional language in the Ordinance to address the appeal processes and the rules to be followed by the appeal hearing officer.

This docket was advertised for the April 8th Commission meeting, but staff requested a continuance to May 13 or June 10 to allow for more time to complete amendments to the draft.

CDO is currently tracking changes and will keep the community informed of those which are significant. See Hot Links at Tri-newsletter.com.

CONSTRUCTION TO I-10 AND SR 90 TO BEGIN IN FALL 2009:

According to Bill Harmon, ADOT Safford District Engineer, Right of Way purchases will be completed by May and construction is slated in early fall to realign I-10 curves west of SR90 starting near Mile Post 301.

The \$44-million dollar project is funded and is anticipated to last 18 to 24 months.

Removing the dangerous curves will impact properties north of I-10, most prominently the Calvary Baptist Church.

After condemnation, the church will receive \$ 874, 900 for the 8-acre property and a 30' strip from their new property where the Livery Stable was previously located.

Dark Sky Road, known as the frontage road, will be moved to the north approximately 3/4 mile providing new access to residential properties. Right of way costs were significantly reduced with the donation of land by two property owners.

Harman commented that any future plans to connect SR 90 north of the freeway to Mescal Road is not in the plan. If deemed appropriate in the future, ADOT would most likely not be involved since they are backing away from developing local circulation systems.

ATVS DAMAGING AREA:

Removing No Trespassing Signs is considered Criminal Damage/ Vandalism.

Property owners along Tequila Trail are advocating for RESPONSIBLE ATV riding and are requesting parents to inform their children that removing No Trespassing Signs is a crime.

No Trespassing Signs have recently been posted on vacant land that has had vegetative ground cover destroyed by youthful ATV riders. The denuded land is becoming a dust bowl and soils are no longer protected from erosion.

Riders are continuing to remove the signs which warrants continued calls to the Sheriff's Department. Since vacant land owners have provided written permission for neighbors to report trespassing and the destruction of their property, the Sheriff is taking these reports seriously.

BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE:

- Removing curves along a stretch of I-10 with the highest accident rates in the area
- Incorporating climbing lane from Exit 304 west bound to Exit 301
- Providing signalized on and off ramps at Interchange.
- Extending bridge to allow for future I-10 expansion to three lanes in each direction when growth warrants.
- Constructing additional lanes to SR 90 at the underpass.
- Utilizing rubberized surface for greater endurance

HOW TRAVEL WILL BE IMPACTED DURING CONSTRUCTION:

- Two lanes of traffic on I-10 will be kept open in each direction.
- One lane in each direction will be open on SR 90.
- Night closures might occur for 30-minute periods.